



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

January 2007

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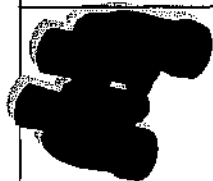
The Colorful Colorado Birding Trail

January 3, 7.30pm - come hear about new and private places to find birds.

Seth Gallagher, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory Deputy Outreach Director, has worked to nominate 50 private land Birding Trail sites in southeast Colorado and has a strong commitment to improving the economic and overall quality of life in rural Colorado. Seth has degrees in Wildlife & Fisheries Management from North Dakota and Tennessee schools and conducted graduate work on the nesting of Red-Shouldered Hawk in Michigan.

John Koshak, Watchable Wildlife Coordinator, SE region for Colorado Division of Wildlife, graduated from Colorado College and has worked as a science teacher, photographer, and log-home builder. Then he started working for the state of Colorado as ranger at Pueblo State Park, San Luis SP, Rifle SP. While in Rifle he also became the District Manager for southern Colorado State Land Board, including management of Chico Basin Ranch. Currently John works for Colorado Division of Wildlife focusing on the development of the Birding Trail.

Also at the January meeting we hope to plan to hear a short progress report. The meeting are held in the Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science.



January Field Trips

Saturday, January 6 *South Platte Park – Carson Nature Center*

Leader: Dee DeJong, 720-838-3277. Meet at 0800 at the Center's parking lot, north of Mineral Avenue, 1 block west of Santa Fe Drive. Easy walking 8-10 a.m. Dee owns "Guides to Go" and volunteers at the Center so knows the area.

Sunday, January 7 *Cherry Creek State Park*

Leaders: Tammy and Ira Sanders, 303-278-7172. Meet at 0800 at marina inside west entrance. Go east from Yosemite on Union Avenue past Cherry Creek High School to entrance. ½ day trip, longer if birding is good. (Parks Pass required – buy a new one!)

Saturday, January 13 *Kent School area – Englewood*

Leader: Lynn Willcockson, 303-757-7000. Meet at 0830 at Cherry Hills Police station. (Southeast corner of S. University and Quincy) ½ day trip. Urban area, good for beginners.

Continued on next page

January 2007 Field Trips, continued

Sunday, January 14 *Overland Park along the So. Platte River*

Leader: Toni Rautus, 303-422-7322. Meet at 0800 at parking lot on north side of Florida, just east of where Florida crosses the river. ½ day, ducks and often surprises.

Saturday, January 20 *Chatfield State Park*

Leader: Ed Holub, 303-979-2194. Meet at 0800 at swim beach. Lunch optional. Ed scouts the area and will know where to find the "good stuff." (Parks Pass required – buy a new one!)

Sunday, January 21 *Wheat Ridge Greenbelt and nearby Jefferson Co. Lakes*

Leader: Mike Foster, 303-456-2647. Meet at Prospect Lake at 0800 – west from Kipling on 44th Avenue, just east of Robb Street in Wheat Ridge, turn south to first parking area at lake. Good waterfowl viewing. Refreshments afterward at Wild Bird Center.

Saturday, January 27th *88th and the Platte River*

Leader: Buzz Schaumberg, 303-699-1721. Meet at 0900 at parking lot at 88th and the Platte for ½ day trip. Ducks, ducks, ducks!

Sunday, January 28th *Quincy Reservoir – Aurora*

Leader: Mary Ann Bonnell 720-319-1931. Meet at 0900 for ½ day trip. From Parker Road, head east on Quincy, past Buckley Road. Look for reservoir on right near traffic light. (Water Purification Facility across street from reservoir) turn right into gate at reservoir. Mary Ann is lead naturalist for City of Aurora Parks and Open Space.

Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook

Welcome New Members!

Jeff Dawson, 526. S. Race St, Denver, CO 80209, 303.722.6758

Jamie Douglass, 2576 S. Lafayette St, Denver, CO 80210, 303.722.2111

Pat Franklin, 726-33 Tramway Vista Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122, 505.856.7443

Gretchen Moritz-Hale, 3330 S. Logan St, Englewood, CO 80113, 303.762.8560

John Shoe, 3553 Lipan St, Denver, CO 80211, 303.455.2942

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund

Doris Cruze (RBA, EEF), Patty Echelmeyer (EEF), Pat Franklin (RBA), Bill and Jo Ann Hackos (RBA), Norma Kamby (RBA), Alice Kruse (RBA, EEF), Judy Lane (EEF), Bobbie Lohr (RBA), Chuck Lowrie (RBA), Mary Metzger (RBA), Janice and Chuck Mowry (RBA), Kitsi Atkinson and Tom Pool (RBA, EEF), Karleen and James Schofield (RBA, EEF), Karen von Saltza (RBA), Anne Southcott (RBA), Mary Ann Tavery (EEF), Joan and Jack Whiting (RBA, EEF),

Thank you for your support. Don't forget that your membership is now due!

November 2006 Field Trip Summaries

October 8, Sunday

The Big Sit at Chatfield Reservoir (BIG)

Leader(s): Joey Kellner. **Observers:** Warren Finch, Jill Holden, Ed Holub, Tina Jones, Loch Kilpatrick, Nick Komar, Charlie Lawrence, Joe Roller, Ira Sanders, Tammy Sanders, Jim Schmoker, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Steve Stachowiak, Glenn Walbek. **Time:** 0500-1910. **Weather:** Overcast all day, north wind, 2-11 mph, light wind early, then calm and light drizzle for rest of the day, 50-55°F. **Totals:** 71 species, 1994 individuals.

November 4, Saturday

Longmont Area (LON)

Leader(s): Chris Owens. **Observers:** Meredith Anderson, Kris Koff, Dick Pratt, Anne Robinson, Steve and Kathryn Smith. **Time:** 0800-1430. **Distance:** 30 miles by car. **Habitat:** Ponds, lakes, agricultural land, riparian. **Weather:** Cloudy to partly cloudy, 50-60°F, variable wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 40 species, 3215 individuals.

November 4, Saturday

Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)

Leader(s): Bob Brown. **Observers:** Ursula Barsch, Gregg Goodrich, Pauline Ide, Randy Lentz, Larry Modesitt, Nancy Pinkert, Ted Pinkert, Mary Ellen Sargent, Bob Spencer, Chuck Walters. **Time:** 0800-1200. **Distance:** 20.7 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Reservoir open water, mixed riparian, elevation 5560'. **Weather:** Chilly and breezy early, fair and calm late, 30-55°F, west northwest wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 49 species, 1012 individuals.

November 5, Sunday

Scoter Trip at Various Mountain Lakes (SCO)

Leader(s): Joey Kellner. **Observers:** Maggie Boswell, Paul Differding, John Drummond, Allen Hagood, Mary Ellen Sargent. **Time:** 0730-1600. **Distance:** 350 miles by car. **Habitat:** Lakes and reservoirs. **Weather:** Clear becoming mostly cloudy by afternoon, 20-53°F, north wind, 1-10 mph. **Totals:** 53 species, 29109 individuals.

November 11, Saturday

Pueblo (PUE)

Leader(s): Ira and Tammy Sanders. **Observers:** Bill Eden, Tina Jones, Bob Spencer, Richard Stevens, Elaine Salmento. **Time:** 0650-1430. **Distance:** 200 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Open water, riparian, city park. **Weather:** Sunny to partly sunny, 22-53°F, southwest wind, 5-10 mph. **Totals:** 76 species, 2850 individuals.

November 12, Sunday

Castlewood Canyon State Park, Walker Pit, Kingerys' Feeders (CAS)

Leader(s): Urling and Hugh Kingery. **Observers:** Tricia Silvestri. **Time:** 0800-1200. **Distance:** 11 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Gravel pit pond, mixed conifers, scrub oak. **Weather:** Intermittent snow showers, 31-37°F, no wind. **Totals:** 37 species, 486 individuals.

November 18, Saturday

Audubon Center at Chatfield (AUD)

Leader(s): Doris Cruze. **Observers:** Vaughn Hackett, Alison Kondler, Nancy and Ted Pinkert. **Time:** 0800-1100. **Habitat:** Streamside, willow groves, ponds, open meadows. **Weather:** Clear, 34-47°F, northwest wind, 5-20 mph. **Totals:** 29 species, 367 individuals.

November 19, Sunday

Barr Lake State Park (BAR)

Leader(s): Lee and Marilyn Rowe. **Observers:** None. **Time:** 0800-1030. **Distance:** 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, lake, elevation 5100'. **Weather:** Clear, calm, 29-47°F. **Totals:** 32 species, 6273 individuals.

November 24, Friday

Platte River Greenway (PLA)

Leader(s): Jackie King. **Observers:** Todd Deininger, Pat Franklin (Albuquerque), JoAnn Garavaglia, Ann Sprague. **Time:** 0830-1130. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Cold, cloudy with very cold wind, 40-45°F, southeast wind, 8-12 mph. **Totals:** 32 species, 955 individuals.

November 2006 Field Trip Summaries, continued

November 25, Saturday *Belmar Park, Lakewood (BEL)*

Leader(s): Karleen Schofield. **Observers:** Rose Barber, Nancy Dunkle, Jean Frazier, Vaughn Hackett, Fred Hager, Jeff Hager, Norma Kamby, Alison Kondler, Monna Krebs, Barbara Morrison, John Morrison, Audrey Sheldon, Jeanie Sheldon, Richard Sheppard, Karen von Saltza. **Time:** 0900. **Habitat:** Lake, riparian, grassland, wetland, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Sun, 30-50°F, calm. **Totals:** 30 species, 557 individuals.

November 26, Sunday *Chatfield State Park (CHA)*

Leader(s): Dick Schottler. **Observers:** Mary Burger, Ron Carter, Pat Franklin, Fred Hager, Alison Kondler, Charles Lawrence, Nancy Pinkert, Ted Pinkert, Nina Routh. **Time:** 0800-1340. **Distance:** 5 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Weather:** Clear morning, partly cloudy afternoon, 38-50°F, north wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 49 species, 1480 individuals.

Tuesday Birders

November 7 *Chatfield State Park (CHA)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 44. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, .75 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Large reservoir, riparian, cottonwood, willow, open grassy areas, elevation 5430'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 57-76°F, variable wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 29 species, 413 individuals.

November 14 *Bear Creek Lake Park (BEA)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 17. **Time:** 0900-1130. **Distance:** 9 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Reservoir, riparian, cottonwood, willow, cattail, open fields, elevation 5800'. **Weather:** Overcast, rain, rainbow, some sun, 49-46°F, variable wind, 0-45 mph. **Totals:** 20 species, 539 individuals.

November 21 *Belmar Lakewood City Park (BEL)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 25. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Reservoir and ponds, deciduous and evergreen trees, city park, open fields, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Overcast to partly sunny, 47-71°F, variable wind, 0-3 mph. **Totals:** 29 species, 301 individuals.

November 28 *Old Stone House, Bear Creek Greenbelt (OLD)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 26. **Time:** 0900-1130. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, cottonwood, willow, with meadows, elevation 5300'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy to overcast, 29-38°F, northeast wind, 5-15 mph. **Totals:** 21 species, 503 individuals.



Diana Mullineaux, long-time member of the Denver Field Ornithologists, died on October 24th.

She was a dedicated, careful birder and a wonderful friend for many of the club members. She and husband Don, joined field trips, often in Colorado, throughout America, and overseas. They generously shared their Arvada backyard sightings with us. We'll miss her help and knowledge, and her gentle ways. We hope that Don will continue to have DFO's activities as a part of his life.

October 2006 Field Trip Summary Table

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS												TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	8-Oct	4-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	18-Nov	19-Nov	24-Nov	25-Nov	26-Nov	7-Nov	14-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov		
	BIG	LON	CHE	SOO	PUE	CAS	AUD	BAR	FLA	BEL	CHA	CHA	BEA	BEL	OLD		
Pacific Loon				3	1											4	
Common Loon		3	8	8	4						1	2				26	
Red-billed Grebe	3	5	2	8	2							1				21	
Horned Grebe		11	14	1	30						1					57	
Red-necked Grebe					1											1	
Eared Grebe	1	500	36	2232	200	3					1		4			2977	
Western Grebe	225	500	40	3	300						15	6				1089	
Clark's Grebe	1				1											2	
American White Pelican	3	67	142		1											213	
Double-crested Cormorant	100		87	2	10	12		1				10				222	
Great Blue Heron	14	6	12		2		2		1	1	2	1		1		42	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	2															2	
Cackling Goose					3	2				20	10					35	
Greater White-fronted Goose			2		1			1								4	
Snow Goose					6			6				1				13	
"Whiter morph"					6			5								(11)	
"Blue morph"								1								(1)	
Canada Goose	110	120	139	11	130	22	25	5000	110	250	600	225	300	108	266	7416	
Brant					1											1	
Tundra Swan				4												4	
Wood Duck					75					2				2		79	
Gadwall	60	32	9	841	30	29	4	60	45	6	42	6		5		1169	
American Wigeon	35	65	3	686	70			100	55		18					1012	
Mallard	25	40	8	300	20	25		300	105	10	75		3	7	33	951	
Blue-winged Teal	4								1							5	
Northern Shoveler	9	5	10	41	10		6	50	110	35	130		60	30	83	579	
Northern Pintail	2			1	1			400	65		4					473	
Green-winged Teal	5	4	45	27	2			200	85		7					375	
Canvasback		3		500	30	3		5			2					543	
Redhead		90		808	45						8					951	
Ring-necked Duck	4	11		106				16		12	14			6		169	
Greater Scaup					1											1	
Lesser Scaup	15	28	1	822	6	4		6		12	38		3	16		951	
Surf Scoter				3												3	
White-winged Scoter				2												2	
Bufflehead	2	70	3	7525	6				20	2	25		3	3		7659	
Common Goldeneye		221	3	488	3	2	15	4	4	3	36	13	3	2		807	
Barrow's Goldeneye				1					1							2	
Hooded Merganser		2	6	4	20	2				2	2	2		2	6	48	
Common Merganser	175	3	5	6	10		1				8	2	2			212	
Red-breasted Merganser		15	3		10							4				32	
Ruddy Duck				252	15	2							17			286	

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS												TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	8-Oct	4-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	18-Nov	19-Nov	24-Nov	25-Nov	26-Nov	7-Nov	14-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov		
	BIG	LON	CHE	SCO	PUE	CAS	AUD	BAR	PLA	BEL	CHA	CHA	BEA	BEL	OLD		
Osprey	1	1														2	
Bald Eagle		1	1	2				6								10	
Northern Harrier		1	1	3	2			3	2			1				13	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1										1			1		3	
Cooper's Hawk	1				1					1				1		4	
Red-tailed Hawk	2	5	3	1	12	1	4		2		5	3			1	39	
western races					12						5					(17)	
Ferruginous Hawk					1											1	
Rough-legged Hawk					1			2								3	
Golden Eagle	2	1														3	
American Kestrel	4	3	2		7	3	1	2	3	1	1			2	3	32	
Martin									1							1	
Peregrine Falcon	1															1	
Prairie Falcon	1															1	
Ring-necked Pheasant			1													1	
Virginia Rail			2											1		3	
Sora							2									2	
American Coot	300	213	150	14131	90	1	1		4	2	28	75		1		14996	
Sandhill Crane	46															46	
Black-bellied Plover	2															2	
Semipalmated Plover	1															1	
Killdeer	28		2						1							31	
Stilt Sandpiper	5															5	
Long-billed Dowitcher	80															80	
Red-necked Phalarope	1															1	
Red Phalarope	1															1	
Pomarine Jaeger	1															1	
Little Gull					1											1	
Bonaparte's Gull		42	8	1	50						6					107	
Ring-billed Gull	105	500	98	32	1000	114	35	20	245	65	230	10	4	44	2	2504	
California Gull	31		24	30	200			1			1					287	
Herring Gull	3		2	13	50						4	1				73	
Thayer's Gull					1											1	
Lesser Black-backed Gull			1		2											3	
Great Black-backed Gull					2											2	
Black-legged Kittiwake			2													2	
Ivory Gull																0	
Common Tern	2															2	
Forster's Tern	10															10	
Rock Pigeon	20	81	2		1	5	28		25	40				19	1	222	
Eurasian Collared-dove		15						1								16	
Mourning Dove	1				3					16				2		22	
Great Horned Owl	2				1						2				2	7	
Rufous Hummingbird																0	
Belted Kingfisher	2		2		1	1	3			1	3	2		2	3	20	

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS												TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	6-Oct	4-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	18-Nov	19-Nov	24-Nov	25-Nov	26-Nov	7-Nov	14-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov		
	BIG	LON	CHE	SCQ	PUE	CAS	AUD	BAR	PLA	BEL	CHA	GHA	BEA	BEL	OLD		
Downy Woodpecker	2				2	2	1				2	2		1	2	14	
"Rocky Mountain" race					2											(2)	
"eastern" race											2					(2)	
Hairy Woodpecker																0	
Northern Flicker	6	1	7	1	5	2	3	4		8	5	5	2	2	7	58	
"Red-shafted" race	(6)	(1)			(5)			(4)		(8)	(5)					(29)	
Buff-breasted Flycatcher																0	
Northern Shrike			1		1		1									3	
Steller's Jay				2		3										5	
Blue Jay					2			5							3	10	
Western Scrub-Jay						3	5									8	
Clark's Nutcracker				1												1	
Black-billed Magpie	14		9	3	5	5	2		2	2	12	6	5	2	16	83	
American Crow	55		1	14	4	2	120		1	11	40	12	4	5	12	281	
Common Raven	6			16	15	1	3			2						43	
Horned Lark	3	50		100	40											193	
Black-capped Chickadee	9		3		5	4	18	1	4	5	17	5		1	8	80	
Mountain Chickadee						8										8	
Bush-tit				35								2				37	
Red-breasted Nuthatch					2											2	
White-breasted Nuthatch						6	1				2	1				10	
Pygmy Nuthatch				5		10										15	
Brown Creeper					1						1					2	
American Dipper													1			1	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3				1		1				1					6	
Western Bluebird						12										12	
Mountain Bluebird	2			2	10											14	
Townsend's Solitaire				1	1	8				1		1				12	
American Robin	35	6	8	2	10	1			5	12	1			11	5	96	
European Starling	7		86	16	1	110	45	22	15	7	2	12	100		2	425	
American Pipit	1			1	1						6					9	
Orange-crowned Warbler	1															1	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	19				10											29	
Spotted Towhee	1					1										2	
American Tree Sparrow		6	2						6		50		4			68	
Fox Sparrow																0	
Song Sparrow	1		1			1	12	6	2	1	2		1	2	2	31	
White-crowned Sparrow	15		1					4								20	
Dark-eyed Junco	1			12	25	36	6	6		5	3	1	1		10	106	
"Slate-colored" race										(1)						(1)	
"Oregon" race										(1)						(1)	
"Pink-sided" race	1			11							3					(15)	
"Gray-headed" race				1												(1)	
Red-winged Blackbird	3	450	2	1	200		6	14	2		4		14	1		697	
Western Meadowlark	1				3						1					5	
Brewer's Blackbird	350								25							375	
Common Grackle	5															5	
House Finch	3	28	12		22	11	11	8	4	22	6	1	8	21	36	193	
Red Crossbill				3												3	
Pine Siskin				6												6	
Lesser Goldfinch	2															2	
American Goldfinch					10	29	5	13	2		5					64	
House Sparrow		10			1			6	2							19	
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	1994	3215	1012	28109	2850	486	367	6273	955	557	1480	413	539	301	503	50,054	
TOTAL SPECIES	71	40	49	53	76	37	29	32	32	30	49	29	20	29	21	125	
OBSERVATION LEGEND:	a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only, c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare/unusual, +=also/in addition to, x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated																

November 2006 Additional Reports

Species	Dates	Nr seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Loon, red-throated	11/2-11/4	1, photos	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Kellner, Joey
Loon, yellow-billed	11/24	1, 1st winter	Erie Res. Boulder	Boulder	Bob Spencer, mob.
Loon, yellow-billed	11/26	1 im., photos	Erie Reservoir, Boulder	Boulder	Paul Differding, Joey Kellner
Grebe, red-necked	11/1	1 ad. basic	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Kellner, Joey
Grebe, red-necked	11/17	1 im.	Eleven Mile Reservoir	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Heron, Great Blue	11/23, 11/26	1, photo	Dillon Res.	Summit	Richard Seeley
Goose, Gr. White-fronted	11/4	2	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Goose, Ross'	11/18	1	Mt. Olivet Cemetery	Jefferson	Bob Brown
Swan, trumpeter	11/26	2	Fentress Res., Boulder	Boulder	Paul Differding, Joey Kellner
Swan, tundra	11/17	8	Antero Reservoir	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Canvasback	11/3-11/25	3 to 8	Walker Pit, Franktown	Douglas	Urling & Hugh Kingery
Scoter, surf	11/11	1	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek
Scoter, surf	11/17	8	Antero Reservoir	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Scoter, surf	11/18-11/20	1	Trailmark Pond	Jefferson	Kellner, Joey
Scoter, white-winged	10/31, 11/1	1	Pond near Pena Blvd	Denver	Kelly Miller-off 40th between Chambers & Airport rd
Scoter, white-winged	11/13	1 m ad.	Crown Hill	Jefferson	Bob Spencer
Scoter, white-winged	11/17	1 im.	Eleven Mile Reservoir	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Scoter, white-winged	11/20	1 im.	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Kellner, Joey
Scoter, black	11/10	1	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Scoter, black	11/17	1 f	Eleven Mile Reservoir	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Scoter, black	11/17	1 f	Dillon Reservoir	Summit	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Duck, Long-tailed	11/26	2 im. or f	Union Reservoir	Weld	Paul Differding, Joey Kellner
Duck, Long-tailed	11/26	1 m, basic plum.	Cherry Creek Reservoir	Arapahoe	Paul Differding, Joey Kellner
Duck, Long-tailed	11/27	1	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Goldeneye, Barrow's	11/17	1 m	Eleven Mile Reservoir	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Goldeneye, Barrow's	11/17	1 m	Spinney Mountain Res.	Park	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Goldeneye, Barrow's	11/17	1 m	Clear Creek Reservoir		Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Goldeneye, Barrow's	11/17	6 (3m, 3f)	Dillon Reservoir	Summit	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Goldeneye, Barrow's	11/17	14 (2 ad m, 11 f, 2 r)	Silverthorne Sewage Poi	Summit	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Goldeneye, Barrow's	11/27	1 m	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Dunlin	11/19	3 basic plum.	Prewitt Reservoir	Washington	Norm Erthal, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Gene Rutherford, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek
Gull, lesser black-backed	11/4	1	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Gull, lesser black-backed	11/11	1 ad.	Cherry Creek Reservoir	Arapahoe	Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick, Larry Modesitt, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek
Gull, lesser black-backed	11/27	1, 1st winter	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Kellner, Joey
Gull, Slaty-backed	11/27	1, 1st winter	Mc Intosh Lake	Boulder	Tony Leukering, Bob Spencer et al.
Kittiwake, black-legged	11/04, 10, 12	1 juv.	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Kittiwake, black-legged	11/4	1 ad.	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Crow, Pied	9/28, 11/24	1	Washington Park area	Denver	Angie Koehler
Crow, Pied	10/30	1	Washington Park area	Denver	Barbara Masoner
Crow, Pied	11/13	1	County Line & Quebec	Arap/Doug	Lee Gleichmann
Crow, Pied	11/18	1	Evans & I 25	Denver	Harvey Nieburg
The Pied Crow is an East African bird. If they must have escaped from somebody. It all had leg bands and if they showed up throughout the city.					
Bushtit	11/6	20	Rowley Downs, Parker	Douglas	Tim Davis
Warbler, Chestnut-sided	11/8, 11/9	1 f, 1st winter	Belmar Park	Jefferson	Kathleen Schofield, Mark Chavez
Warbler, Hooded	11/3, 11/11	1, photo RBR subm	Aurora	Arapahoe	Penny Sorger
Sparrow, Chipping	11/29	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Sparrow, Swamp	11/16	1	Wheat Ridge green belt	Jefferson	Bob Spencer
Bunting, snow	11/19	2 f, excellent photos	Prewitt Reservoir	Washington	Norm Erthal, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Gene Rutherford, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek
Blackbird, Rusty	11/21	1	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Grackle, Great-tailed	11/7	1, id by call+large si	Rowley Downs, Parker	Douglas	Tim Davis

Get Ready to "Count Birds for the Record!"

Great Backyard Bird Count combines the fun of bird watching with conservation

New York, NY & Ithaca, NY, November 2006--What mid-winter activity is fun, easy, free, and helps bird conservation? What can parents and teachers do with children that connects them to a whole new world of natural wonders? This February, the tenth annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, will give everyone a chance to discover the birds in their neighborhood and "Count for the Record."

"Before the count, I never bothered to tell one sparrow from the next," said Lori Bailey, a GBBC participant from La Crosse, Wisconsin. "But I took a picture of something taking shelter in a tree, enlarged it in Photoshop, and was actually able to tell what kind of sparrow it was. It was kind of fun playing detective. In short, the bird count had adventure, mystery, and the unexpected."

During February 16–19, 2007, people of all ages, from beginners to experts, are invited to join this event which spans all of the United States and Canada. Participants can take part wherever they are – at home, in schoolyards, at local parks or wildlife refuges. Observers simply count the highest number of each species they see during an outing or a sitting, and enter their tally on the Great Backyard Bird Count web site at www.birdsource.org/gbbc.

"The Great Backyard Bird Count is a community celebration of birds, birding, and nature," said Janis Dickinson, director of Citizen Science at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. "We often fail to notice how rich our surroundings are, but counting birds, even for just 15 minutes, is not only educational - it can provide a lasting source of enjoyment, turning a daily walk into a treasure hunt."

"We are encouraging people to go outside and count birds for the first time this year," said Paul Green, Audubon's director of Citizen Science. "By submitting their counts online, birdwatchers can quickly see how the dots they put on the map form new patterns that tell new stories about the birds that share the world in which we live, including our own backyards and parks." This year marks the tenth anniversary of the GBBC, and Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology are challenging people everywhere to "Count for the Record," by participating in greater numbers than ever before. Greater participation, with more checklists submitted, provides more information about bird population trends – and helps to better inform conservation efforts.

Last year, participants submitted more than 60,000 checklists – and reported 7.5 million birds overall and 623 different species. The count helped chronicle the early spring migratory routes of Sandhill Cranes, documented lingering migrants such as Orange-crowned Warblers and Tree Swallows, revealed the ongoing range expansion of introduced Eurasian Collared-Doves, and recorded declining numbers of American Crows.

Participants who want to hone their bird watching skills can learn more from the Great Backyard Bird Count web site, which offers identification tips and access to photos, sounds, maps, and natural history information on more than 500 bird species. People can also submit photos to an online gallery showcasing the dazzling array of winter birds found during the GBBC. Competitions add another element of fun, including a photo contest, rankings for most numerous birds, and the coveted "checklist champ" title for towns, states, and provinces with the highest participation.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a free event, sponsored in part by Wild Birds Unlimited. For more information, visit www.birdsource.org/gbbc.

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The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

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Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Alison Hilf ahilf@aol.com and Meredith Anderson, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

! Reminder: If your monthly *Lark Bunting* is late in arriving, please call the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750 for field trip information. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Our web www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are open to the public without charge. Monthly membership meetings are on the first Wednesday September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 06) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting) \$20.00

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting) \$25.00

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger) \$5

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert \$____

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](#)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund \$____

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name:

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address: _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



The Lark Bunting

February 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 2

Dr. Diana Tomback, Clark's Nutcracker and Whitebark Pine

February 7 Wednesday at 7:30 pm in Ricketson Auditorium of Denver Museum of Nature & Science at 20th and Colorado Blvd.

In the mid-1970's, while studying the behavioral ecology of the Clark's Nutcracker for her doctoral dissertation Dr. Diana Tomback, professor of Biology at University of Colorado at Denver, discovered that the Nutcracker is the primary seed disperser for Whitebark Pine. This led to her election in 1994 as Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union. Since then her research has revealed ecological and evolutionary consequences to pines from bird seed dispersal. This work has grown in importance since Whitebark Pine provides "critical habitat" for grizzly bears.

Currently Dr. Tomback's research includes long-term studies of Whitebark Pine regeneration after the 1988 fires in Yellowstone National Park and investigating the outlook for Whitebark Pine in the northern Rocky Mountains. She is a member of the Whitebark Pine Research Team, a group organized by the Fire Sciences Laboratory, US Forest service in response to the decline of Whitebark Pine in the northern Rocky Mountains, the result of the exotic fungal disease (white pine blister rust) and fire suppression.



Photo by Lee Juillerat

February Field Trips

Saturday, February 3 *Hawk Prowl*

Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644. Meet leader at 0800 at E. 88th and the Platte River. From I-76 take E. 88th Ave. exit, go west on 88th for 1.6 miles then turn south at Colorado Blvd. Turn left again into the parking lot for the South Platte River Greenway Trailhead. We will meet here and consolidate cars to drive north and east along the So. Platte River and out onto the plains looking for raptors wintering in the Denver area. Bring lunch and drinking water. Trip will end by 1500. Please call leader if going in case weather is questionable.

Sunday, February 4

Chatfield State Park

Bob and Lea Ann Brown, 303-791-6204

Meet leaders at 0830 inside the park at the swim beach. State Parks Pass required. Lunch optional as this is a half day trip.

Saturday, February 10

Cherry Creek Reservoir

Leader: Steve Kennedy, 303-690-8265. Meet leader at 0800 at the west entrance of park. Go east from Yosemite St. on Union Ave. past Cherry Creek High School. Bring water and wear warm hiking shoes or boots for a half-day trip. Dress warmly! State Parks Pass required.

Continued on next page

February 2007 Field Trips, continued

Sunday, February 11 *Lakes of Lakewood*

Leader: Alison Kondler, 303-904-9140. Meet leader at 0830 at the Belmar Historic Park, 800 South Wadsworth Blvd at West Ohio Ave. Turn west on Ohio Ave. and go two blocks straight ahead into Irongate parking lot and to the lake. Trip will begin at Belmar Historic Park then proceed to East Reservoir and other lakes in the Kipling-Jewell area. This will be a three hour trip so lunch is optional. There will be a limited amount of walking on easy surfaces.

Saturday, February 17 *South Platte River Wanderings*

Leader: Ed Holub, 303-979-2194. Meet leader at 0730 at the South Platte Park's Carson Nature Center, north of Mineral Ave., 1 block west of S. Santa Fe Drive. This trip may go past lunch so bring a lunch and drinking water. Participants will bird South Platte Park, McClellan Reservoir and other places of interest in the surrounding area.

Sunday, February 18 *Roxborough State Park*

Leader: Doris Cruze, 303-798-8072. Meet leader at 0800 at the Visitor's Center for a three and a half-hour walking tour on an easy trail. Participants should see golden eagles and species common in the foothills. State Parks Pass required or \$5 entrance fee per car. Lunch will be optional but there is a beautiful place to sit on the patio and watch the birds as you eat lunch. Take S. Wadsworth Blvd. past Chatfield S.P. to Waterton Rd on left. Take Waterton Rd. 1.6 miles east to North Rampart Range Rd., turn right and go south 2.3 miles to Roxborough Park Rd. Turn left and follow signs to the park (2.2 miles). This is an excellent trip for novice birders and new members.

Saturday, February 24 *South Platte River Greenway*

Leader: Mike Foster, 303-456-2647. Meet leader at 0830 at E. 88th and the Platte River. From I-76 take E. 88th Ave. exit, go west on 88th for 1.6 miles then turn south at Colorado Blvd. Turn left again into the parking lot for the South Platte River Greenway Trailhead. This will be a less than half day trip so lunch is optional. Do bring a snack and water.

Sunday, February 25 *Bird Watching for the Novice*

Leader: Karlene Schofield, 303-936-8661. Meet leader at 0900 at the Belmar Historic Park, 800 South Wadsworth Blvd at West Ohio Ave. Turn west on Ohio Ave. and go two blocks straight ahead into Irongate parking lot and to the lake. Trip will end before noon so lunch is optional. This trip will be an easy hike on wheelchair accessible trails to study and learn about the various waterfowl that winter in the Denver area. Bring binoculars and field guide.

Scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook

Kirtland's Warbler and Spring Eastern Migrants

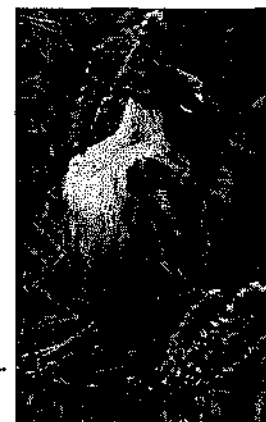
Saturday, May 19 to Sunday May 27, 2007

Leader: Joey Kellner

There is nothing like seeing many of North America's eastern warblers in their spectacular breeding plumage. Hearing the birds singing their beautiful songs on a bright spring morning can be spellbinding! The numbers of individual migrants should be impressive as well as the number of species, 27-30+ species of warbler are possible!

Come join us in looking for many of North America's eastern warblers including the endangered Kirtland's Warbler! With Joey Kellner as our guide, several of North America's greatest migrant traps including Point Pelee and Crane Creek will be explored as we look for warblers, cuckoos, bitterns, rails and shorebirds. Limited to 8 participants.

Call Allison Hilf (303) 888-5110 for more information.



The Denver Christmas Bird Count – a Preliminary Report

More than 80 observers and 30 feeder watchers participated in the 53rd annual Denver Christmas Bird Count held on Saturday, December 16, 2006. The weather cooperated on Count day with mostly clear, relatively balmy conditions. High temperatures made it into the 40's even in the mountain areas, winds were generally light, and there was almost no snow cover for observers to contend with.



With all but one of the area reports and all of the feeder reports tallied, at least 34,800 birds of 104 species were observed on Count day, and an additional four species were seen during "Count week" (the three days preceding and the three days following Count day). This is the first time since 2002 that we have topped the century mark for the number of species seen.

No new species were added to the cumulative Count list of birds seen this year, thus the total remains at 193.

However, a good number of birds seen on only a few previous counts were observed and documented. These included a third-record Lesser Black-backed Gull seen and photographed by Joey Kellner's group at Chatfield, two Say's Phoebes (third/fourth records) seen and photographed at Marston Reservoir by Karl Stecher's crew, four Pinyon Jays (fifth record) coming to a feeder, a flock of twelve Western Bluebirds (second record) seen by Tom Bush's group in the Ken Caryl area, and a second record McCown's Longspur found by Norm Erthal in the Plum Creek area. Other birds rarely seen on previous Counts included Ross's Goose, Eared Grebe, Yellow-bellied

Sapsucker, Rock Wren, Green-tailed Towhee, and Lapland Longspur. Two of the birds seen during Count week had also been seen very few times previously; a Pacific Loon (four previous records) on Marston reservoir, and a Red-necked Grebe (one previous record) seen on Chatfield Reservoir.

At the opposite extreme, the most numerous species recorded, as usual, was Canada Goose with over 14,000 recorded. An interesting observation, at least to the compiler, was the fluctuation in the number of Robins seen in 2006 (less than 300) compared with almost 2,500 observed in 2005.

- * Thanks to all of the area leaders, observers, and feeder watchers who made the 53rd Denver Christmas Bird Count a success.
- * Also thanks to Scott and Sandy Menough and their crew at Wild Birds Unlimited for again hosting our post-Count get-together.

Dick Schottler, Compiler

Additional Reports

Species	Dates	Nr seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Loon, Pacific	12/05-12/10	2	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Joey Kellner
Grebe, Red-necked	12/1	1	Pueblo Reservoir	Pueblo	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Grebe, Red-necked	12/19	1 ad.	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Joey Kellner
Goose, Snow	12/9	1, blue morph	Walden Ponds	Boulder	Bob Spencer
Duck, Long-tailed	12/06-12/15	1	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Duck, Long-tailed	12/27	1 m	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Barrow's Goldeneye	12/6	1 m	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Gull, Thayer's	12/19-12/28	2 ad.	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Joey Kellner
Gull, Lesser black-backed	12/26	1 ad.	Chatfield Reservoir	Douglas	Joey Kellner
Gull, Glaucous	12/18	1-1st yr	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Gull, Great Black-backed	12/1	1 ad.	Pueblo Reservoir	Pueblo	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied	12/16	1	Red Rocks Elem. School	Jefferson	Bob Brown
Wren, Rock	12/16	1	Red Rocks Park	Jefferson	Bob Brown
Wren, Carolina	12/1	1 singing!	Canon City riverwalk	Fremont	Rich Miller, Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek, Mark Peterson
Warbler, Orange-crowned	12/1	1	Pueblo City Park	Pueblo	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, Nashville	12/1	2 - 1 ad, 1 im f	Pueblo City Park	Pueblo	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, Myrtle	12/1	8	Pueblo City Park	Pueblo	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, Audubon's	12/1	15	Pueblo City Park	Pueblo	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek

Welcome New Members!

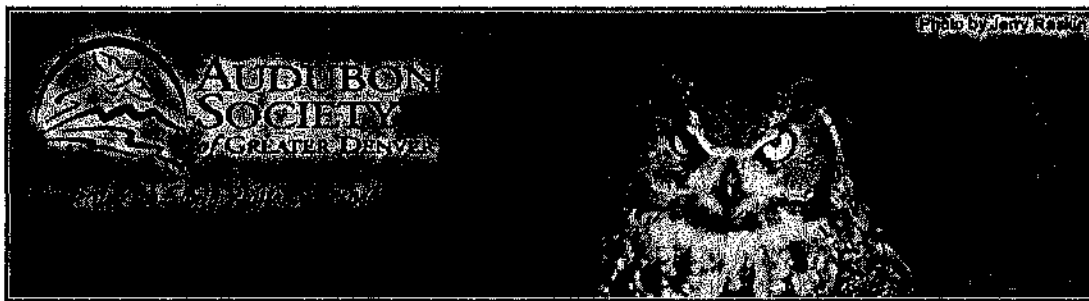
Gwen and Marshall Haferkamp, Rt. 1 Box 2356, Miles City, Montana 59301, 406.234.7603

John and Barbara Morrison, 1065 S. High St., Denver, CO 80209, 303.282.6366

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

Mary Jane Black (RBA), Dan and Renee Brachear (RBA, EEF), Warren Finch (RBA, EEF), Greg Goodrich (RBA, EEF), Merikay Haggerty (RBA, EEF), Grace Hahn (RBA, EEF), Georgia Hart and Fred Alderman (RBA, EEF), Diane Hutton (EEF), Pat and Ed Joy (RBA), Jill Knaak (EEF), Kris Koff (EEF), Joan Little (EEF), Martha McCauley (RBA), Peter Mulholland (RBA), Ted and Nancy Pinkert (RBA, EEF), Barney and Pat Poole (RBA, EEF), Nina Routh (RBA), Danny and Denise Smith (RBA), Joyce Takamine (EEF), Philip and Joan Tomer (RBA), Jan Justice Waddington (RBA), Laura and Wayne Wathen (RBA, EEF). Larry and Roni Wilson (EEF).

Thank you all for your support.



Bird watching trips and opportunities from the Denver Audubon Society

Walk the Wetlands

Sunday, February 4 at 9 a.m.

LEADERS: Hugh & Urling Kingery (303-814-2723), Bob Brown, and Doris Cruze

Pre-registration is NOT required.

Fee: None

Meeting Place: Parking lot at the Audubon Center at Chatfield. The Audubon Center is located on Waterton Road, 4.4 miles south of C-470 and Wadsworth.

Description: We will hike along the South Platte River and look for winter birds such as raptors, ducks and seed-eating perching birds. We always find surprises. Dress in layers for the weather. Bring binoculars, field guides, water and a snack.

Courtship Intricacies of Colorado Birds Class

Tuesday, March 27 and Tuesday, April 3 at 7-9 p.m. each evening

LEADER: Tina Jones (303-794-2647)

Pre-registration is required.

Fee: \$20/Friends members, \$25/non-member

Meeting Place: The Audubon Center at Chatfield, 4.4 miles south of C-470 and Wadsworth, on Waterton Road.

Description: Have you ever wondered how the Ruffed Grouse, which resides in northwest Colorado, makes its bizarre drumming sound? How does a Common Nighthawk make its courtship sound, which sounds like a bullfrog? Students will learn about bird calls and much more. Additional explorations will explore how chicks know their calls and songs before they are a day or two old, birds exhibiting polyandry (one female mates with several males, but the male mates with only one female), and the finer points of courtship feeding. Courtship behavior in Colorado birds is the emphasis of this class, though some examples of courtship will be mentioned from other areas in North America. Nests will also be available to view.

Beginning Bird Watching Class

Thursday, March 29 at 7 p.m. — classroom session

Saturdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28 and May 5 — field trips

LEADERS: Hugh & Urling Kingery (303-814-2723)

Pre-registration is required.

Fee: \$125/Friends members, \$150/non-member

Meeting Place: Classroom session at the Audubon Center at Chatfield; field trips to birdwatching sites around Denver: Chatfield, Barr Lake and Castlewood Canyon State Parks, Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, and Genesee Mountain.

Description: Voted "Best of Denver!" two decades ago and still going strong. Colorado's premier (and most entertaining) birding couple teaches the art and science of birding like no one else. Learn bird identification, choosing binoculars and field guides, and much more. Visit a variety of habitats and some of the best birding spots in the Denver metro area. Become observant and develop a practiced eye and ear. Make new friends and change the focus of your time outdoors. You can make up any field trips that you miss during future fall or spring class sessions—you'll meet people from more than one previous class repeating the fun!

<http://www.denveraudubon.org/classes2.htm#wtwfeb>

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Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.



Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Alison Hilf ahilf@aol.com and Meredith Anderson, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

! Reminder: If your monthly *Lark Bunting* is late in arriving, please call the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750 for field trip information. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Our web www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at **7:30 pm**, and are open to the public without charge. Monthly membership meetings are on the first Wednesday September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 06) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting) **\$20.00**

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting) **\$25.00**

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger) **\$5**

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert \$____

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](#)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund \$____

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name:

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



The Lark Bunting

March 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 3

"How To Atlas II"

Speaker Tony Leukering March 7, 2007, 7.30 pm

Last November, Tony Leukering, ornithologist at Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, explained the need for an updated Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas and some members were able to choose blocks and obtain maps. Tony will focus on field efforts, with suggestion on effective field techniques, examples of the use of breeding codes and more in-depth explanations. He will also be taking more sign-ups to conduct one or more Atlas II Blocks. Come and join in this worthwhile project.

Tony has been with RMBO since 1994 after working on a wide variety of field projects since 1982. He has worked for two other bird observatories and the US Fish & Wildlife Service and has extensive experience and interest in bird identification, banding, and migration. As Special Projects Coordinator, Tony heads up the Second Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas for the Colorado Bird Atlas Partnership. He is also in charge of all bird-banding activities at the Observatory and is seeking funding to support writing a new book on the birdlife of Colorado.

Monthly Meeting March 7 Wednesday 7:30 pm Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Park on the north side of museum and enter west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door.

Meeting Date Change Reminder! Beginning in April 2007 Denver Field Ornithologists monthly meeting will move to 4th Monday, still at 7:30 pm in Ricketson Auditorium. Upcoming meeting dates: March 7, 2007, then CHANGE April 23, 2007

March Field Trips

Saturday, March 3 Lair O' the Bear Park

Leader: Norm Lewis (303) 988-5544, meet leader at 0900 at Lair O' the Bear Park parking lot, 4 miles west of Morrison on CO Highway 74. Half day trip. Dress for changing conditions. Please get in touch with Leader with any questions and to let him know to expect you.

Saturday, March 3 Bird Identification Workshop for Young Birders

Leader: Charles Thornton-Kolbe (303) 777-7588; charles@sharenature.org

This is a bird identification workshop for grade school age children to prepare them for the March 10 field trip (see below). The workshop will be from 3PM to 4:30PM; parent participation required. You must RSVP by calling Charles Thornton-Kolbe at 303-777-7588 or charles@sharenature.org. Call/email for workshop location.

Sunday, March 4 Northeastern Plains

Leader: Norm Erthal (303) 424-6747; nethal@comcast.net

Meet leader at 0630 at the Division of Wildlife parking lot, 6060 Broadway. Prepare to carpool; bring lunch, water, snacks. Call or email leader if you plan to go: (303) 424-6747; nethal@comcast.net

Saturday, March 10 Bear Creek Lake Park

Leader: Mike Foster (303) 456-2647

Meet leader at 0800 at Skunk Hollow parking area. From Morrison Road exit of C-470, go east on Morrison Road a

Continued on next page

March 2007 Field Trips, continued

short distance, look for Park entrance on right. After entrance booth, turn right, cross creek, take first right into Skunk Hollow parking area. Leader will provide day passes. This IBA on Bear Creek is surveyed regularly from spring to fall, but we'll seek the winter residents and early migrants in the lakes and along riparian trails. Half-day trip. Bring water and snacks.

Saturday, March 10 *Pueblo: Trip for Birders with Young Children*

Please take the children along while we all go birding in Pueblo county during what will hopefully be a nice warm March day. This birding trip is designed for families with young children (ages 6 to 12 and please call about other siblings and friends and grandchildren) and will provide all family members numerous opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and birding. We will leave from Denver by car pool at 9 AM and plan to bird several Pueblo locations (including Valco Ponds, Pueblo Lake State Park or Pueblo City Park, and Pueblo West). Bring coats, hiking boots, water, and a picnic lunch for you and your family. So that we can effectively plan for children activities, you must RSVP for the workshop and/or trip by calling Charles Thornton-Kolbe at 303-777-7588 or charles@sharenature.org. Once you RSVP, car pool information and location will be provided. To prepare for this trip, there will be a workshop on bird identification for children from 3 PM to 4:30 PM on March 3 (see above). This workshop will require parent participation and will last about one hour.

Sunday, March 11 *Big Dry Creek Open Space/Westminster*

Leaders: Meredith Anderson (303)280-8576 and Nina Routh (303) 987-8687

Meet leaders at 0800 in the west parking lot at Front Range Community College; 112th Ave., between Sheridan and Federal. We'll hike the trails in search of sparrows, raptors, and surprises. Bring a lunch to enjoy at Meredith's home. Weather permitting, we will visit some nearby lakes in the afternoon.

Saturday, March 17 *Longmont Area*

Leader: Chris Owens (303) 772-6048

Meet leader at 0730 in the parking lot at Jim Hamm Nature Area. From I-25 take Highway 119 west to County Line Road (Weld CR 1), north to 17th. The parking lot is on the left. Three-quarter day trip. Bring snacks, water and lunch. Dress for weather.

Sunday, March 18 *Walden Ponds/Boulder*

Leader: Suzi Plooster (303) 494-6708

Meet leader at 0900 at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot. From Denver, go west on US 36 to Foothills Parkway (Exit C157), then north to Arapahoe Ave., then east to 75th Street; go north on 75th past Valmont Road and railroad tracks. Turn left at Wildlife Habitat sign and follow road to Cottonwood Marsh parking lot. Easy walking; good wetland and riparian habitat. Half-day trip. Bring a lunch to enjoy at the Plooster's home.

Saturday, March 24 *Barr Lake State Park*

Leaders: Marilyn and Lee Rowe (303) 659-8069

Meet leaders at 0800 at the Barr Lake Nature Center parking lot. Good variety of birds and interesting possibilities. Half-day trip; lunch optional. State Parks Pass required.

Sunday, March 25 *Wheat Ridge Green Belt*

Leader: Toni Rautus (303) 422-7322 Meet leader at 0800 at Prospect Park parking area on 44th Avenue between Quail and Robb Streets. We'll look for waterfowl, early migrants, and the resident Eastern Screech-Owl. Half-day trip; bring water and snacks; dress for weather.

Sunday, March 31 *Chautauqua Park/Boulder Trails*

Leader: Paul Slingsby (303) 422-3728 Meet leader at 0700 at the Park-N-Ride off I-70 at Ward Road to carpool. This is a 3.4 mile hike with some fairly steep terrain. We'll look for early nesting raptors, nuthatches, woodpeckers, waxwings, American Dippers, grosbeaks and other mountain species. Full day trip; bring water, snacks, and lunch; dress for changing conditions.

March 2007 Field Trips, continued

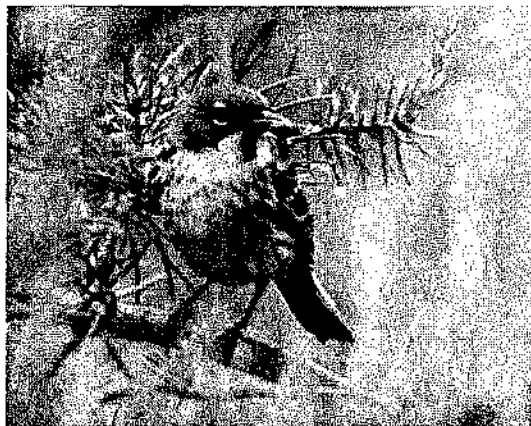
Birding with Children

Bird Identification Workshop and Trip to Pueblo for Birders with Young Children (grade school age children). Please take the children along while we all go birding on Saturday, March 10 in Pueblo county during what will hopefully be a nice warm March day. The nice thing about Pueblo is it is usually 10 to 15 degrees warmer than Denver county and a number of birds (such as Scaled Quail) can be found more easily in that area. We will leave from Denver by carpool at 9 AM and plan to bird several Pueblo locations (including Valco Ponds, Pueblo Lake State Park or Pueblo City Park, and Pueblo West). Bring coats, hiking boots, water, and a picnic lunch for you and your family. This birding trip is designed for families with young children (ages 6 to 12 and please call about other siblings and friends and grand children) and will provide all family members numerous opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and birding.

To prepare for the March 10 field trip, we will also offer a workshop on bird identification for children from 3 PM to 4:30 PM on March 3. This workshop will require parent participation.

So that we can effectively plan for children activities, you must RSVP for the workshop and/or trip by calling Charles Thornton-Kolbe at 303-777-7588 or charles@sharenature.org. Once you RSVP, the carpool information and the location for the workshop will be provided. We look forward to hearing from you so that we can all have the opportunity to share birds, wildlife and the outdoors with our children.

Scheduled by Meredith Anderson



Kirtland's Warbler and Spring Eastern Migrants

Saturday, May 19 to Sunday May 27, 2007

Leader: Joey Kellner

There is nothing like seeing many of North America's eastern warblers in their spectacular breeding plumage. Hearing the birds singing their beautiful songs on a bright spring morning can be spellbinding! The numbers of individual migrants should be impressive as well as the number of species, 27-30+ species of warbler are possible!

Come join us in looking for many of North America's eastern warblers including the endangered Kirtland's Warbler! With Joey Kellner as our guide, several of North America's greatest migrant traps including Point Pelee and Crane Creek will be explored as we look for warblers, cuckoos, bitterns, rails and shorebirds. Limited to 8 participants. Call Allison Hilf (303) 888-5110 for more information.

Field Trip Summaries for January 2007

January 6, Saturday *South Platte Park, Carson Nature Center (SOU)*, Cancelled due to weather.

January 7, Sunday *Cherry Creek Reservoir (CHE)*

Leader(s): Tammy and Ira Sanders **Observers:** Karen vonSaltza. **Time:** 0800-1130. **Distance:** 8.5 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, frozen reservoir. **Weather:** Sunny, clear, 17-24°F, west southwest wind, 10 mph. **Totals:** 25 species, 793 individuals.

January 13, Saturday *Kent School Area, Englewood (KEN)*

Leader(s): Lynn Willcockson. **Observers:** Buzz Schaumberg. **Time:** 0830-1100. **Distance:** 8.3 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Residential and open fields, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Clear, ground covered with up to 18" of snow, water frozen, -3-+2°F, no wind. **Totals:** 19 species, 643 individuals.

January 14, Sunday *Overland Park along the South Platte River (OVE)*, Cancelled due to weather.

January 20, Saturday *Chatfield State Park (CHA)*

Leader(s): Ed Holub. **Observers:** Alison Kondler. **Time:** 0800-1200. **Habitat:** Lake, river riparian, plains, elevation 5600+'. **Weather:** Cold, overcast, some snow flurries, 8-29°F, no wind. **Totals:** 24 species, 128 individuals.

January 21, Sunday *Wheat Ridge Greenbelt (WHE)*

Leader(s): Mike Foster. **Observers:** Bob Santangelo, Patti O'Neill, Sheila Duranso. **Time:** 0800-0930. **Distance:** 1.5 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lowland riparian, lakes, urban park. **Weather:** Snowy, windy, 25°F. **Totals:** 16 species, 392 individuals.

January 27th, Saturday *88th and the Platte River (PLA)*

Leader(s): Buzz Schaumberg. **Observers:** Lynn Willcockson. **Time:** 0900-1100. **Distance:** 2-6 miles on foot. **Habitat:** River and shrubs. **Weather:** Snowing, 21°F, westerly wind, 8-12 mph. **Totals:** 30 species, 998 individuals.

January 28th, Sunday *Quincy Reservoir - Aurora (QUI)*, Cancelled; site not accessible.

Tuesday Birders

January 2 *No trip scheduled*

January 9 *Botanic Gardens at Chatfield (BOT)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 21. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot (1.5 walk group, 1.5 snowshoe group). **Habitat:** Riparian, ponds (frozen), cottonwood, willow, cattails, open fields, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Foggy to clear, 22-40°F, calm. **Totals:** 16 species, 1134 individuals.

January 16 *South Platte Park (SPP)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 14. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Gravel ponds, riparian, cottonwood, willow, cattails, bicycle trail, elevation 5600'. **Weather:** Sunny, 11-26°F, southeast wind, 0-7 mph. **Totals:** 31 species, 443 individuals.

January 23 *Cancelled; area closed due to snow conditions.*

January 30 *South Platte River & 88th (SPR)*

Leader(s): Alice Kruse. **Observers:** 10. **Time:** 0900-1130. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, cottonwood, willow, agricultural, bicycle trail, elevation 5200'. **Weather:** Overcast, 20-24°F, southwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 26 species, 503 individuals.

January 2007 Field Trip Table

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	6	7	13	14	20	21	27	28	2	9	16	23	30	
	-	CHE	KEN	-	CHA	WHE	PLA	-	-	BOT	SPP	-	SPR	
Pied-billed Grebe		1					1						2	4
Double-crested Cormorant													1	1
Great Blue Heron					4		1				2		1	8
Cackling Goose		150												150
Canada Goose		300	280		44	200	20			800	28		65	1737
Wood Duck			36											36
Gadwall					15	20	63				4		20	122
American Wigeon			55		1	15	15				1		1	88
Mallard		40	40		12	50	70				57		9	278
Northern Shoveler		120			6	18	170				142		200	656
Northern Pintail					1		135				1		40	177
Green-winged Teal					6	2	128				5		16	157
Canvasback							1							1
Ring-necked Duck							18				16			34
Lesser Scaup							59				1			60
Bufflehead					1		85				17		14	117
Common Goldeneye		4			7	1	147				6		40	205
Barrow's Goldeneye													1	1
Hooded Merganser					1	1	7				3			12
Common Merganser		12			3		12				11		4	42
Ruddy Duck							2						2	4
Bald Eagle		5					1							6
Northern Harrier							2						1	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk										1				1
accipiter sp.		1												1
Red-tailed Hawk		6	3		5		2			2	2		1	21
western races		6												(6)
Rough-legged Hawk														0
American Kestrel		3			1		2			1	1		2	10
American Coot		10			1	20	4				10		2	47
Killdeer					1	1	1				1			4
Long-billed Dowitcher														0
Red-necked Phalarope														0
Ring-billed Gull		50			1	50	28				5		60	194
Herring Gull		2												2
Ivory Gull														0
Rock Pigeon		25	21				1			30	12		12	101
Rufous Hummingbird														0
Belted Kingfisher					1						2			3
Downy Woodpecker					1					2	1			4
Hairy Woodpecker														0
Northern Flicker		7	8			5				2	3		2	27
"Red-shafted" race						(5)								(5)
Buff-breasted Flycatcher														0
Northern Shrike											2			2
Blue Jay		1	2											3
Black-billed Magpie		18	8		6	5	6			9	3		3	58
American Crow		3	2		4					45	1		1	56
Common Raven					1									1
Black-capped Chickadee		5	3							5	4			17
American Dipper						1								1

January 2007 Field Trip Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	6	7	13	14	20	21	27	28	2	9	16	23	30	
	-	CHE	KEN	-	CHA	WHE	PLA	-	-	BOT	SPP	-	SPR	
Townsend's Solitaire					2									2
American Robin			84							2				86
European Starling			4								57			61
American Pipit						1								1
Cedar Waxwing			3											3
Spotted Towhee			2											2
American Tree Sparrow		20					1						1	22
Fox Sparrow														0
Song Sparrow		1				2	7			1	2		2	15
White-crowned Sparrow							6			1				7
Dark-eyed Junco		3	5							2				10
"Slate-colored" race			(2)											(2)
"Oregon" race			(2)											(2)
"Pink-sided" race		(3)												(3)
"Gray-headed" race			(1)											(1)
Red-winged Blackbird		1	35				3			210				249
House Finch		5	43		3					21	41			113
House Sparrow			8								2			11
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	0	793	643	0	128	392	998	0	0	1134	443	0	503	5,034
TOTAL SPECIES	0	25	19	0	24	16	30	0	0	16	31	0	26	54

OBSERVATION LEGEND:

a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
 c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare,unusual, + =also/in addition to,
 x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated

Hello Birders!

Birds cover thousands of miles during migration. Like any long-distance traveler, they need a place to rest and refuel. What do birds do when all they see below are towns and cities? Despite the dramatic increase in urbanization, how can we provide green spaces with adequate food and shelter to help the birds? What impacts do community gardens, rooftop gardens, parks, green balconies, or even a single tree in a sea of concrete have on birds?

Help the Cornell Lab of Ornithology find out in an exciting and free nationwide event called **Celebrate Urban Birds!** May 10-13, 2007, www.urbanbirds.org/celebration.

People of all ages and backgrounds can spend from one hour to four days learning about city birds, conducting bird counts for science, and engaging in projects to green up their community. Help organize an event in your community through your group, museum, nature center, school, library, business, senior center, community center, club, park, or backyard! You choose how involved you want to be. For example you could simply provide a table with celebration kits, host a simple event that fits into your organization's programming needs, or go all-out with a large community event (with music, art, community improvement activities, or container planting projects).

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology will provide:

- **Bilingual Celebration Kit**, including a poster, booklet, instructions for counting birds, data forms, and a sunflower starter kit.
- **Bilingual Celebration web site** including information for partners and participants, contests, educational materials, photos and links to community partners, art connections, online data collection, and much more.
- **Bilingual Results Publication** featuring summaries of data and findings, photos, contest winners, stories, art, and more.

Join the Lab of Ornithology for **Celebrate Urban Birds!** Sign up as soon as possible by visiting www.urbanbirds.org/celebration and clicking the top-left button on the navigation bar. Invite others in your community to join us as well. The more the better! Don't hesitate to call or write if you have any questions or concerns. Sincerely, Karen Purcell, [Urban Bird Studies](http://UrbanBirdStudies) and PigeonWatch, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, phone: (607) 254-2455
 email: urbanbirds@cornell.edu

53rd Annual 2006 Denver Christmas Count

Dick Schottler, Compiler

The 2006 Denver Christmas Bird Count (CBC) took place on December 16th, the 53rd consecutive year that the Denver Field Ornithologists has conducted a Christmas Count within the same 15-mile diameter Count circle established in 1954 and centered just north of the old Ken Caryl Ranch entrance. The weather on Count Day was good with clear to partly cloudy skies, calm to moderate winds, and relatively mild temperatures. Two foothill areas were not counted again this year for lack of volunteer leaders. Even with the incomplete coverage, a respectable 35,275 individual birds of 105 species were recorded by 82 field observers and 33 feeder watchers.

No new species were added to the cumulative Denver CBC list in 2006; the total species seen since 1954 thus remains at 193. On the other hand, five species were seen this year that had been reported on ten percent (5) or less of the previous 52 Counts. These were a third-record Lesser Black-backed Gull seen and photographed by Joey Kellner's group at Chatfield, two Say's Phoebes (third record) seen and photographed at Marston Reservoir by Karl Stecher's crew, four Pinyon Jays (fifth record) coming to a feeder, a flock of 12 Western Bluebirds (second record) seen by Tom Bush's group in Ken Caryl, and a second-record McCown's Longspur found by Norm Erthal in the Plum Creek area. Other uncommon species seen this year included Ross's Goose, Eared Grebe, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Rock Wren, Green-tailed Towhee, and Lapland Longspur.

Record-high individual numbers were established for seven species: Cackling Goose (1453 vs. 1107 in 2005), Redhead (286; previous high 241 in 2001), Eared Grebe (8; previous high 6 in 1981), Red-tailed Hawk (116; previous high 107 in 2004), Say's Phoebe (2; one was seen in both 2003 and 2004), Pygmy Nuthatch (472; previous high 425 in 2004), and Western Bluebird (12; previous high 2 in 1974). Two species were seen in much fewer than usual numbers this year. These were Brown Creeper (5 is the lowest since 1967; the average for the previous decade is 25), and Dark-eyed Junco (745 is lowest since 1969; average for the previous 10 years is 1187). For only the third year since 1954 (and the second year in a row) no Rough-legged Hawks were seen.

The ten most numerous species observed on the Count were: 1. Canada Goose (14,278), 2. Mallard (2,456), 3. Crow (1,756), 4. House Finch (1,680), 5. Starling (1,596), 6. Ring-billed Gull (1,513), 7. Cackling Goose (1,453), 8. Red-winged Blackbird (973), 9. Coot (826), and 10. Rock Pigeon (777). Together, these ten species accounted for over 77 percent of the birds counted, with Canada/Cackling Geese representing almost 45 percent of the total.

Four additional species were observed in the Count circle during Count Week but not on Count Day: Barrow's Goldeneye (Marston Reservoir), Pacific Loon (Marston Reservoir), Red-necked Grebe (Chatfield Reservoir), and Tayer's Gull (Chatfield Reservoir). This brought the Count Week total species seen to 109.

As compiler of the 53rd Denver Christmas Bird Count, I want to thank all of the field observers and feeder watchers for participating. Special thanks go to the Area Leaders whose efforts made this Count a success, to Patty Echelmeyer and Tina Jones for their efforts once again in lining up the feeder watchers and compiling the feeder results. Finally, a much deserved thanks to Scott and Sandy Menough and the staff at their Wild Birds Unlimited store for again hosting our compilation meeting and providing the very welcome refreshments after a cold day in the field. This was the 12th year they have done this for us, and as always, it was a great way to wrap up the Count.

53rd Annual Denver Christmas Bird Count

Day, Date, and Time: Saturday, December 16, 2006, 6:15 am to 5:15 pm.

Compiler: Dick Schottler **Feeder Coordinators:** Patty Echelmeyer and Tina Jones

Weather: Clear to Partly cloudy **Temperature:** 20 to 50 deg. F **Wind:** variable, 0 to 20 mph

Snow Cover: 0 to 8" **Still Water:** Partly open **Moving Water:** Partly open

Observers: 115 (82 in 28 parties, 33 watchers at 30 feeders)

Total Party Hours: 192.3 (129.5 on foot, 62.8 by car)

Total Party Miles: 633.4 (90.2 on foot, 543.2 by car)

Owling: 8.5 hours by three parties between 1:30 am and 7:00 am **Owling miles:** 70

Hours Spent Watching Feeders: 79.5

Count Totals: 105 species; 35,275 individuals

Participants by Area (Area Leader's names in bold):

Area 1. Red Rocks Park (RRP): Bill Brockner, **Bob Brown**, LeaAnn Brown, Karel Buckley, Tom Casadevall, Charles Kemper, Steve Smith

Area 2. Lower Bear Creek (LBC): **Mike Henwood**, Rob Riker

Area 2A. Bear Creek Lake Park (BCP): **Kathy Hawkins**, Kris Koff

Area 3. Bow Mar/Marston (BMM): Gale Evans, **Karl Stecher**

Area 4A. Lower South Platte-east (LSP): Ruth Breckon, Tim Brown, **Ed Holub**, John Shoe

Area 4B. Lower South Platte-west (LSP): Paul Barrett, Warren Finch, Bob Knapp, Dick Pratt, **Robert Shade**, Bob Spencer, Mike Sprenger

Area 5. Highline Ditch (HLD): Betty Oliver, **Harold Oliver**

Area 6. Plum Creek (PCK): **Norm Erthal**

Area 7A. Middle South Platte (MSP): **Randy Lentz**

Area 7B. Middle South Platte (MSP): Ron Carter, **Hugh Kingery**, Urling Kingery, Deb Ostergard, Mike Serruto

Area 8. Chatfield Reservoir (CHA): Paul Differding, Allison Hilf, Pauline Ide, **Joey Kellner**, Alison Kondler, Steve Stachowiak

Area 9. Upper South Platte (USP): **Jill Holden**, Cheryl Nikirk, Mary Ellen Sargent, Jenny Tallmadge, Rob Tallmadge, Carolyn Weekstrom

Area 10. Lower Deer Creek (LDC): Jean Davis, Patty Echelmeyer, Judy Lane, Glen Meyers, **Lynn Willcockson**

Area 11. Upper Deer Creek (UDC): (Area not counted)

Area 12. Yegge Peak (YPK): **Ann Bonnell**, Elna Cain, Else Van Erp

Area 13. Doublehead Mountain (DHM): Amy Davis, **Tim Davis**, Veronica Holt

Area 14. North Turkey Creek (NTC): Larry Modesitt, **Dick Schottler**

Area 15. Indian Hills (IHL): Margie Bailey, Bill Eden, Mike Foster, Leslie Gerard, Patti O'Neill, Dick Prickett, Warren Roske, Lynn Vaseleski, **Sherman Wing**

Area 16. Upper Bear Creek (UBC): **Gene Rutherford**

Area 17. Ken Caryl Ranch (KCR): **Tom Bush**, Mark Chavez, Jeanette Duerksen, Rebecca Duerksen, Nina Routh, Karen Von Saltza

Area 18. Garrison Gate (GGT): (Area not counted)

Area 19. Morrison/Willow Brook (MWB): **Jackie King**, Dave O'Reilly

Area 20. Willow Creek (WCK): Nancy Crews, Doug Hodous, Paul Thayer, Phoebe Thayer, **Dennis Wojcicki**

Area 21. Mt. Lindo/Willow Springs (MLW): **Karleen Schofield**

Feeder Watchers: Jane Axtell, Lowell Baumunk, Doni Berry, John Bonnell, Margo Breen, Nan Brehmer, Debby Carstensen, Carol Chapman, Betty Chrisman, Dee DeJong, Carol Duecker, Marcia Ferguson, Marjory Friedman, Betty & Stan Harwood, Bill & Jewell Henrichs, Tina Jones, Bill Karsell, Mike Kinsey, Judy Lane, Kurt Lani, Dick Masteller, Jake Mola, John Presler, Millie Sanger, Jacque Schneider, Janet Shin, Barb & Frank Shissler, Anne Southcott, Candy Vallado, Donald Wargo.

CHRISTMAS COUNT 2006

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	COUNT AREAS																							TOTAL		
	RRP	LBC	BCP	BMM	LSP	LSP	HLC	PCK	MSP	MSP	CHA	USP	LDC	UDC	YPK	DHM	NTC	IHL	UBC	KCR	GGT	MWB	WCK		MLW	FEEDERS
	1	2	2A	3	4A	4B	5	6	7A	7B	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		21	
Snow Goose		1				1																				2
Ross's Goose											1															1
Canada Goose		741	438	1790	3300	1710	214		310		1600	3	295							23		210	1195	8	2441	14278
Cackling Goose				475	8	170					450											10			340	1453
Wood Duck					3	1																			50	54
Gadwall		3	4	23	65	74	6	3	5	1	36												11			231
American Wigeon		1	42	16	30	36			2	14	18														4	163
Mallard		275	705	20	400	773	2	8	10	3	100	2							6				50		102	2456
Northern Shoveler		45	10	87	14	16		1			72												20		11	276
Northern Pintail				1							4															5
Green-winged Teal				16	5	17		4		2	62											3				109
Canvasback				44	1																					45
Redhead			6	240					2														38			286
Ring-necked Duck					26	14			4													1	4		33	82
Lesser Scaup			5	26	1	3					6												9			50
Bufflehead		3	6	50	10	50			3	1													3		1	127
Common Goldeneye		3	18	40	4	30	9	2	23	18	52											8	12		2	221
Hooded Merganser		22		82	8	9		2	3	4	12												16			158
Common Merganser		7	16	305	15	86			63	63	90												2			647
Red-breasted Merganser				4																						4
Ruddy Duck			3																							3
Wild Turkey																50										50
Common Loon											1															1
Pied-billed Grebe				30		4					1															35
Eared Grebe				8																						8
Western Grebe									1		5															6
Great Blue Heron				2	1	19	1		2	6	1															32
Black-crowned Night-Heron					2																					2
Bald Eagle				1	2	2	2		1	9	2	2					1	1								23
Northern Harrier							1			1	1															3
Sharp-shinned Hawk					1													2	1	1		1			4	10
Cooper's Hawk			1	1		1														1		1				5
Northern Goshawk																									1	1
accipiter sp.									1																	1
Red-tailed Hawk	3	4	6	6	4	10	9	4	4	18	8	5	4		1	4	3	1		4		8	5	1	4	116
western races	(3)	(5)	(6)	(6)	(4)	(9)	(9)	(4)	(4)	(18)	(8)	(5)	(4)		(3)	(4)	(3)	(1)		(4)		(8)	(5)	(1)	(4)	(118)
Hairlan's race						(1)																				(1)
Ferruginous Hawk							3																			3
buteo sp.																							1			1
Golden Eagle	2						2		1			1						1		2		1			2	12
American Kestrel	2	2	4	1	5	4	4		2	2	3	3	3							1		1	2		6	45
Merlin										1																1
Prairie Falcon	1			3						1	1															6
Virginia Rail									1	4																5
American Coot		5	2	600	125	32			2	18	42															826

February 2007 Field Trips, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	COUNT AREAS																									TOTAL
	RRP	LBC	BCP	BMM	LSP	LSP	HLD	PCK	MSP	MSP	CHA	USP	LDC	UDC	YPK	DHM	NTC	IHL	UBC	KCR	GGT	MWB	WCK	MLW	FEEDERS	
	1	2	2A	3	4A	4B	5	6	7A	7B	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
American Dipper									2		1	3							5							11
Golden-crowned Kinglet															1											1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet											1															1
WESTERN BLUEBIRD																				12						12
Townsend's Solitaire	11								2	9	3	11	1		9	4	7	49	36	21		3		23	6	195
American Robin	19	52	2	1	1	1		3	4	6	2	3	1		21		2	12	12	7		4	12	78	41	284
European Starling	3	53	12	180	12	67	75	3	18	67	27	37	53			12	45	12	16	5		36	659	1	203	1596
American Pipit									1																	1
Cedar Waxwing																			1							1
Green-tailed Towhee								2																		2
Spotted Towhee	2											3	1		3	6		2	1						8	26
American Tree Sparrow			6			6	2	74	21	81	11		3						1						1	206
Song Sparrow	3	5	3	4	5	7		26	14	66	11	2	3		1	1		1	4					1	3	160
White-crowned Sparrow			4			5		3	10																3	25
Dark-eyed Junco	37	7		8			13	33	17	24	8	14	21		18	144	27	31	46	10		18	6	54	209	745
"White-winged" race																(1)										(1)
"Slate-colored" race	(2)	(1)		(1)			(13)	(2)		(1)	(3)	(3)	(4)		(4)	(16)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(2)					(30)	(87)
"Oregon"	(10)	(2)						(5)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(6)	(12)			(20)	(5)	(3)	(1)	(3)		(18)		(1)	(56)	(145)
"Pink-sided" race	(18)	(3)		(2)				(9)	(16)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(1)		(4)		(11)	(1)	(5)	(3)				(9)	(26)	(116)
"Gray-headed" race	(7)												(4)		(1)	(48)	(3)	(25)	(7)	(2)				(22)	(5)	(124)
junco race		(1)		(5)				(17)		(21)		(2)			(9)	(59)	(6)		(32)				(6)	(22)	(92)	(272)
McCOWNS LONGSPUR								1																		
Lapland Longspur											6															6
Red-winged Blackbird				7		71		3	38	19			396			45	1	18		4		10	1		360	973
Western Meadowlark										7																7
RUSTY BLACKBIRD								5			2															7
Pine Grosbeak																		1								1
Cassin's Finch							6								2	2		1				2		1	15	29
House Finch	36	75	45	33	50	41	34	40	13	23	35	15	53		67	148	84	30	30	32		134	194	28	440	1680
Red Crossbill															6		10							8		24
Pine Siskin										1					27	15		4							10	57
American Goldfinch	2		2			5			1	10	5							5					2	1	17	50
House Sparrow	28	2		25	35	8	18				17								55	10		20	50		221	489
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	237	1524	1434	5383	4264	3537	435	285	666	712	2850	174	1054	0	253	930	628	640	414	274	0	680	2646	337	5918	35,275
TOTAL SPECIES	25	31	30	45	35	46	26	26	45	41	54	24	26	0	23	23	23	31	25	28	0	29	28	25	48	105

Additional Reports

Species	Dates	Number seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Hawk, Harlan's	26 Jan.	1	Bear Creek Trail	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Merlin	24 Jan.	1	Pasquinee Park	Denver	Barb Masoner
Merlin	5 Jan.	1	Elizabeth	Elbert	Lucy Hoffhines
Dove, Eur.Collared	1 Jan.	1	4430 Gladiol St.	Jefferson	Robert Spencer
Dove, Eur.Collared	all Jan.	5	Louviers	Douglas	Tom Halvorstadt
Owl, N. Pygmy	22 Jan.	1	Kassler, Waterton	Jefferson	Terri Doolittle. Caught a Dark-eyed Junco
Flicker, northern	26 Jan.	22	Parker - all in the yard at one time	Douglas	Patty Perron
Say's Phoebe	5 Jan.	1	Lookout Mtn.	Jefferson	Jean Widman
Pied Crow	Jan.	1	Washington Park	Denver	Angie Koehler, Susan Anderson, and others
This bird consorts with other crows and shows up at widely spaced locations: Wash Park, Iliff & Emerson, Highlands Ranch, may be Lakewood, etc. It shows how far the city crows range during the day.					
Thrasher, Brown	7 Jan.	1	Audubon Center, Chatfield	Jefferson	Audubon Walk The Wetlands Group

Thank you for your submittals, Polleke Siraa - psiraa@earthlink.net.

Welcome New Members!

- ψ Dan and Robin Beyer, 6373 S. Reed Way, Littleton, CO 80123
- ψ John Breitsch, 4699 Kittredge St # 1438, Denver, CO 80239, 720.519.1895
- ψ Irene Horn, 3024 S. Grape Way, Denver, CO 80222, 303.756.9606
- ψ Jean Howell, 3660 Seramonte Dr., Highlands Ranch, CO 80129, 303. 346.0422
- ψ Barbara Masoner, 1428 S. Gaylord St., Denver, CO 80210

ψ Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

- ψ Meredith Anderson (RBA, EEF), Dan and Robin Beyer (RBA, EEF), Minerva Canavan (RBA), Tim Davis (RBA), Peggy Gonder (RBA, EEF), Douglas & Janet Hodous (EEF), Elissa and Jon McAlear (RBA, EEF), Michael Serruto (RBA, EEF), Margo and Gene Shimel (RBA), Frances Sperl (EEF), Mary K. Stallings (RBA).

ψ Thank you all for your support.

Denver Urban Count

Hugh Kingery, Compiler

Like most post-12/20 CBCs in Colorado, this one encountered lots and lots of snow. One party, which normally walks from Cherry Creek dam to University Blvd. simply scrubbed the trip, period. The Cherry Creek bike path had up to 2 feet of snow on it. Surprisingly, the paths along the South Platte had much less snow, and both parties there had quite successful counts.

At Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Fish & Wildlife had plowed only the road to the Visitors Center. This limited us to foot, skis, and snowshoes. Instead of ranging 5 miles from the VC, we walked 2 miles in one direction and skied & snowshoed 1 mile in another. The net result: about ¾ of the average number of individual birds. Only half as many **passerines** as average and 64% of average **raptors**. And wonder of wonders, 63% of average # of Canada Geese. But, oddly, more ducks than average. I'd cite two factors: snow cover and less coverage.

I don't have statistics for all the counts, but here's a comparison of effort between this year and last year:

2006	254 miles	92 hours
2005	368 miles	111 hours

I'm enclosing for your edification a chart showing 2006 count, compared with the average of the previous 18 counts.

Notable drops: Canada Goose, Mallard, Redhead, Com. Merganser (Cherry creek Res. frozen), Bald Eagle, Pheasant, Wilson's Snipe (frozen marshes, I guess), Long-eared Owl (absent from the Arsenal for 2 years), Magpie, Black-capped Chickadee, Starling, Tree Sparrow, House Finch

Notable increases: Shoveler (the main reason we had more ducks than average), N. Pintail, Mourning Dove (We had 37 last year, the high). And then: the Pied Crow. Metro Denver has at least one Pied Crow (of east Africa) that has inhabited the Wash. Park area since early fall. Others have seen it/them at Highlands Ranch, I25 & Hampton, and Lakewood. The one well-documented has a band on its leg, hangs out with a flock of crows, and allows people to approach within 6 feet. I left it out.

Participants: Tuesday Birder, Bill Blomberg, Andrea Bloom, Mike Blum, Steve Blum, Ann Bonnell, Barbara Browne, Caryl Buckstein, Allan Burns, Elna Cain, Lori Chappell, Kevin Corwin, Nancy Crews, Doris Cruze, Casey Davenport, Brad Dobski, John Drummond, Bill Eden, Gail Evans, Ted Floyd, MacKenzie Goldthwait, Pat Goodman, Gary Graham, Celia Greenman, Fred Griest, Walt Hackney, Caroline Hancock, Paula Hansley, Doug Hodous, Jackie King, Hugh Kingery, Urling Kingery, Natasha Laity-Snyder, Brenda Lujan, Kathanne Lynch, Evan Metcalf, Dave O'Reilly, Brad Parks, Polly Reetz, Dawn Renee-Neff, Donny Roush, Nora Roush, Ira Sanders, Tammy Sanders, Buzz Schaumberg, Dick Schottler, Mike Serruto, Barbara Shissler, Frank Shissler, Kathryn Smith, Steve Smith, Tom Smith, Jean Stevenson, Phoebe Thayer, Karen vonSaltza, Diane Wagner, Glenn Walbek, Liz Willcockson, Lynn Willcockson, Cindy Williams, Dennis Wojcicki.

The Editor regrets that there isn't enough room to include in this issue the detailed summary of the Urban Count. It is available as a download from the DFO web site, www.dfobirders.org.

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The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.



Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Alison Hilf ahilf@aol.com and Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

! Reminder: If your monthly *Lark Bunting* is late in arriving, please call the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750 for field trip information. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Our web www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, sing species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Natural and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are open to the public without charge. Starting in April (2007) monthly membership meetings are on the fourth Monday, September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.875 and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting) \$20.00

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting) \$25.00

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger) \$5

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert \$____

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](#)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund \$____

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name:

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



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Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

April 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 4

DFO's Feature Presentation, Monday April 23, 2007, 7.30pm

"Hummers to Eagles"

Weldon Lee travels throughout the world writing about wildlife and has a special way of communicating with animals and his images depict that relationship. He has been called "One of the top five wildlife photographers in America" and his work has appeared in many magazines and he has 2 books to his credit, *Watchable Birds of the Rocky Mountains* and *A Guide to Photographing Rocky Mountain Wildlife*.

He served 3 years as Chair of the Education Committee of the North American Nature Photography Association and is a member of the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers. See his web site: www.RockyMountainPhotoAdventures.com

Meetings are held at Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science at 20th and Colorado Blvd. Park on the north side of the building and enter the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, after 7:30 enter through the security/volunteer door.

Field Trips for April, 2007

Sunday, April 1

South Platte Park

Leader: Dee DeJong, 720-838-3277. Meet at 0800 at Carson Nature Center, off intersection of Mineral Avenue and Santa Fe, just west of light rail station. Short trip (8-10 a.m.) May be surprises on April Fool's Day!

Saturday, April 7

Cherry Creek State Park

Leader: Randy Lentz, 303-680-3381. Meet at 0800 at the marina. Lunch optional. State Parks Pass needed. Should be a good mix of species coming and going.

Sunday, April 8

EASTER – no trip – look for chicks and bunnies!

Saturday, April 14

Rocky Mountain Arsenal

Leader: David Rhoades, 303-424-8633. Call leader to sign up. Space is limited. Lunch optional You may want to check out the feeders at the Visitor's Center. Dave knows what may be where.

Sunday, April 15

Aurora's Morrisen Nature Center/Star K Ranch

Leader: Mary Ann Bonnell, 720-319-1931. Meet at 0830 at 16002 E. Smith Rd in Aurora – on Laredo between

Continued on next page

April 2007 Field Trips, continued

Chambers and Airport Rds. Register at above number. Call for further directions at 303-739-2428. Mary Ann is lead naturalist for Aurora Parks and is eager to share her area and its species.

Saturday, April 21 *Wheat Ridge Greenbelt*

Leader: Peggy Gonder, 303-321-3465. Meet at 0800 at Prospect Lake parking lot. In Wheat Ridge, go south off 44th Avenue between Quail and Robb Streets – first parking area to your right. ½ day trip – easy walking.

Sunday, April 22 *Longmont Area*

Leader: Dick Pratt, 303-651-6860. Meet at 0800 – go north on I-25 to Longmont exit 240 (Highway 119) Park at the Park'n Ride on southeast corner of intersection opposite Wendy's. Full day; bring lunch. May go to Lower Latham Reservoir for early shorebirds. Dick scouts the area – knows its birds, its history, and its geology.

Saturday, April 28 *Hudson Gardens*

Leader: Peggy Hankins, 303-771-8987. Meet at 0730 at 6115 S. Santa Fe Dr. in Littleton, west side, across from Arapahoe Community College, south of Bowles Ave. Half-day trip. Leader is a volunteer here and is familiar with the area's birds; should be some early blooms too.

Sunday April 28 *Castlewood Canyon State Park*

Join us for the **Welcome Home Vultures** festivities. Call 303-688-5242 for information.

Sunday, April 29 *Golden Gate Canyon State Park*

Leader: Paula Hansley 720-890-2628. Meet at 0800 in Golden at the rear parking lot of Foss' Drug Store, 13th and Washington Street. ½ day trip – lunch optional. State Parks Pass needed. Hopefully migrants will be arriving.

Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer and Compiled by Cris Cook



COLORADO STATE PARKS
annual pass 2007

Don't forget that many of our Field Trips require that you have a Parks Pass - if you forgot, you can sign up on line.

Your Annual Pass is good for unlimited entry to all 41 State Parks for 2007.

<http://www.parks.state.co.us/>

Field Trip Summaries, February 2007

February 3, Saturday *Hawk Prowl (HAW)*

Cancelled due to weather.

February 4, Sunday *Chatfield State Park (CHA)*

Leader(s): Bob Brown. **Observers:** Patty Echelmeyer. **Time:** 0830-1130. **Distance:** 15 miles by car, 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Mixed riparian (snow cover to two feet), a bit of open river water, elevation 5440'. **Weather:** Mostly clear, some clouds late, 25-35°F, wind calm to west, 5 mph. **Totals:** 23 species, 194 individuals.

February 10, Saturday *Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)*

Leader(s): Steve Kennedy. **Observers:** Peggy Gonder, Carol Larsen. **Time:** 0800-1300. **Distance:** 7 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake (95% ice covered), riparian, plains, elevation 5300'. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, 25-40°F, southwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 40 species, 658 individuals.

February 11, Sunday *Lakes of Lakewood (LAK)*

Leader(s): Alison Kondler. **Observers:** Norma Jean Brandell, Jean M Davis, Patty Echelmeyer, Celia Greenman. **Time:** 0830-1230. **Distance:** 8.5 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Lakes, ponds, marshes, tree filled fields, roadsides, elevation 5445'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 39-54°F, east wind, 1.6 mph. **Totals:** 30 species, 1076 individuals.

February 17, Saturday *South Platte River Park and McClelland Reservoir (SOU)*

Leader(s): Ed Holub. **Observers:** Norma Jean Brandell, Mary Cay Burger, Mary Geder. **Time:** 0730-1200. **Distance:** 3 miles by car, 1.75 miles on foot. **Habitat:** River, lakes, river riparian, elevation 5800'. **Weather:** Sunny, cool, 23-40°F. **Totals:** 31 species, 370 individuals.

February 18, Sunday *Roxborough State Park - entrance road (ROX)*

Leader(s): Doris Cruze. **Observers:** Nancy Crews, Tom Crews, Shawn Davis, Patty Echelmeyer, Jill Holden, Frances Hopp, Betty Quinn, Katheryn Smith, Steve Smith, Mary Ellen Sargent, Lynn Sargent, Dennis Wojcicki. **Time:** 0800-1030. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Shrub oak, open meadows, elevation 6000'. **Weather:** Heavy snow cover, sky clear, very windy, 35-40°F, south-southwest wind, 15-30 mph. **Totals:** 10 species, 48 individuals.

February 24, Saturday *South Platte River at 88th Avenue (SPR)*

Leader(s): Bob Righter. **Observers:** Warren Roske. **Time:** 0800-1000. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian. **Weather:** Snowy, cold. **Totals:** 21 species, 199 individuals.

February 25, Sunday *Belmar Historic Park (BEL)*

Leader(s): Karleen Schofield. **Observers:** Jean Davis, Patty Echelmeyer, Bill Eden, Celia Greenman, Gretchen Moritz-Hale, Elnora and Robert Winzork. **Time:** 0845-1230. **Distance:** 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, grassland, wetland, man-made lake, elevation 5400'. **Weather:** Sunny, 28-40°F, north wind, 1-2 mph. **Totals:** 23 species, 391 individuals.

Tuesday Birders

February 6 *Wheat Ridge Greenbelt (WHE)*

Leader(s): Alice Kruse and Judy Miller. **Observers:** 35 (two groups). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lakes, riparian, cottonwood, willow, cattails, elevation 5386'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 47-57°F, west wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 30 species, 413 individuals.

February 13 Cancelled due to inclement weather.

Field Trip Summaries February 2007, continued

February 20 *Red Rocks and Morrison Parks (RED)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 35. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 5 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Foothills, shrubland, riparian, city park, elevation 5800-6360'. **Weather:** Sunny, 40-53°F, west wind, 0-15 mph. **Totals:** 20 species, 104 individuals.

February 27 *Wheat Ridge Greenbelt (west from Youngfield) (WRG)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 32. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponds, riparian, cottonwood, willow, cattails, bicycle trail, elevation 5386'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 40-48°F, southwest wind, 0-2 mph. **Totals:** 29 species, 269 individuals.



<http://www.audubon.org/globalWarming/ImpactsBirdsWildlife.php#birds>

Impacts on Birds & Wildlife

Global warming affects birds and other wildlife in countless ways, and can even cause extinctions. Audubon is working to monitor how it is changing wintering and breeding ranges for birds. By participating in citizen science projects like the Christmas Bird Count and Great Backyard Bird Count individuals can help support these research efforts. Getting involved with Audubon's Important Bird Areas program is another way to protect birds and their habitat from the impacts of global warming and other threats.

What are some specific impacts on birds?

Under two scenarios of global climate change, there will be major shifts in the ranges and abundances of many of the 150 common bird species in the Eastern United States over the next 100 years or so; 50-52% of species will decrease in abundance by 25% or more, while 37-40% of species will exhibit range reductions of 25% or more.

Long-distance migrants may be more vulnerable to global warming than other species. As winter temperatures increased between 1980 and 1992 at Lake Constance in Central Europe, the proportion of long-distance migrant bird species decreased while the number and proportion of residents and short-distance migrants increased. In North America, many of our favorite songbirds are long-distance migrants. Species such as Baltimore Oriole, Barn Swallow, Wood Thrush, and Scarlet Tanager could well be driven from the places where we expect to find them, more ominously, from the habitats to which they are best suited.

A 90% decline in Sooty Shearwaters (*Puffinus griseus*) off the California coast in just seven years (1987-1994) has been associated with warming of the California Current, which flows from southern British Columbia to Baja California.

All of the remaining marshland in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (an Important Bird Area in Maryland that provides important habitat for many birds, including Black Rail and Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow, two of Audubon's Red WatchList species) is expected to disappear within 25 years as a result of both climate change and aquifer extraction.

Global warming and associated drought in the Prairie Potholes region (southeastern Alberta and northeastern Montana to southern Manitoba and western Minnesota) will lead to significant reductions in the populations of 14 species of migratory waterfowl; 30-50% fewer prairie ponds will hold water in spring by 2060, with an associated 40-50% decline in the numbers of ducks settling to breed in the area.

Global Warming, continued

The ranges of many European and African birds are likely to shift by at least 600 miles, with a decline in species richness and reduction in average range sizes (based on simulations made for the impacts of a variety of late 21st century climate models on European and African birds).

How does global warming affect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats?

All organisms depend on their habitats for food, water, shelter, and opportunities to breed and raise young. Climate changes can affect organisms and their habitats in a myriad of ways. In fact, global warming impacts all life on earth, from individual organisms to populations, species, communities, and ecosystems. It can alter behaviors, population sizes, species distributions, plant and animal communities, and ecosystem functions and stability. How strongly different species will be affected varies, depending on differences in their ecology and life history. Species with small population sizes, restricted ranges, and limited ability to move to different habitat will be most at risk. Similarly, different habitats and ecosystems will be impacted differently, with those in coastal, high-latitude, and high-altitude regions most vulnerable.

More News from Audubon - Sandhill Cranes in Nebraska.... Experience Nature At Its Best!

Rowe Sanctuary and National Geographic Magazine are teaming up again to present Crane Cam.
<http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/cranecam/> Just click on the link and you can watch the cranes on their river roost both morning and evening.

One thing to remember. The peak of the migration occurs around the third week of March, so the viewing will get progressively better as we proceed through the month. So sit back and enjoy the show!

Rowe Sanctuary offers guided trips to view the world's largest concentration of sandhill cranes from observation blinds on the banks of the Platte River in southcentral Nebraska. The trips are conducted every year during March and early April, when over 500,000 sandhill cranes along with hundreds of thousands of ducks and geese converge on the Platte. Rowe Sanctuary is located right in the heart of this magnificent sandhill crane staging area where the birds can be viewed in huge gatherings on their nighttime roosts. Trips to our observation blinds are timed to provide the best opportunities to see this spectacle. Group sizes are limited to maintain the quality and uniqueness of the experience.

A typical field trip begins and ends with a walk of between 1/4-1/2 mile over level terrain. Morning trips start before dawn as the blinds must be approached under the cover of darkness to prevent spooking the cranes. In the evening, tours arrive at the blinds before the sun sets to view the sandhill cranes as they return to the river and stay until dark. Benches are available for resting, but the blinds are not heated.

Our field trips take place every morning and evening from early March through early April. Although we take "walk-ins" when space is available, we encourage you to call after the first of the year to make reservations. See the [Sandhill Crane Viewing Information](#) page for more details.

As of March 16, 2007:

Great crane viewing at present as we have large numbers in the area (check out Crane Cam). Waterfowl numbers have decreased substantially, but there is still good diversity in the area.

[illegible]

February 2007 Field Trip Table, continued

DATE	3	4	10	11	17	18	24	25	6	13	20	27	TOTAL
LOCATION	-	CHA	CHE	LAK	SOU	ROX	SPR	BEL	WHE	-	RED	WRG	
Belted Kingfisher		1			1								2
Downy Woodpecker		1	2	2	3	1			6		1	2	18
Hairy Woodpecker													0
Northern Flicker			16	28	9	1		5	11		2	5	77
"Red-shafted" race			(16)	(28)	(9)			(5)					(58)
Buff-breasted Flycatcher													0
Northern Shrike			1										1
Blue Jay				8								1	9
Western Scrub-Jay						5					8		13
Black-billed Magpie		6	27	5	3	3	4	4	2		4	1	59
American Crow		11	3	78	4			11	3				110
Common Raven				1							3		4
Black-capped Chickadee		2	8	14	6	12		2	14		3	5	66
White-breasted Nuthatch			3			1							4
Canyon Wren											1		1
American Dipper		1							1		1		3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet									1				1
Townsend's Solitaire				1							1		2
American Robin			1	2					2		2	5	12
European Starling			43	120	11		6	16	9			8	213
American Pipit					1		1						2
Spotted Towhee											1		1
American Tree Sparrow			12										12
Fox Sparrow													0
Song Sparrow		2	9	1	1				1			3	17
White-crowned Sparrow			2				20					1	23
Dark-eyed Junco			6			15			1		6		28
"Slate-colored" race			2										(2)
"Oregon" race			1										(1)
"Pink-sided" race			3										(3)
Red-winged Blackbird			12	25	20		10	5	1			13	86
House Finch			2	80	27	5		27	6		50	9	206
American Goldfinch											10		10
House Sparrow			17	64	15			15					111
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	0	194	658	1076	370	48	199	391	413	0	104	269	3,722
TOTAL SPECIES	0	23	40	30	31	10	21	23	30	0	20	29	66

OBSERVATION LEGEND:

a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
 c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare,unusual, +=also/in addition to,
 x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated

Additional Reports February 2007

Species	Dates	Number seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Am. White Pelican	2/27-3/1	9	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Bob Rozinski
Cinnamon Teal	2/7	2 (pair)	S. Platte river	Denver	Paul Hicks
Northern Goshawk	2/2, 2/6	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Pintail/Am. Wigeon	2/5	1	Bear Creek trail between Estes/Old Kipling. Bird was seen with a mixed flock of ducks S. of the footbridge.	Jefferson	Mike Henwood. White neckstripe similar to a Pintail, dark green eyestripe similar to a Wigeon, on a dark brown head; chest buffy like a Wigeon, neck appeared longer than a Wigeon but not as long and slender as a Pintail. The pointed tail was noticeable, but not as long as on a Pintail. Its bill was grey.
Merlin	2/16	1m.	Backyard at 11647 W. 37th Pl. Wheat Ridge	Jefferson	Richard Sheppard. A merlin, probably the same bird, was seen several times p.w. for a month.
Glaucous Gull	2/21	1 ad.	Waneke Lake, Lafayette	Boulder	Bob Spencer
N. Saw-whet Owl	2/4	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urling Kingery.
Common Raven	2/7	1	Downtown Denver	Denver	Paul Hicks
Marsh Wren	2/7	1	S. Platte river	Denver	Paul Hicks
Mountain Bluebird	2/27	36	Franktown	Douglas	H&U Kingery
Mountain Bluebird	2/27	25	So. Douglas County	Douglas	H&U Kingery
Am. Pipit	2/7	1	So. Platte	Den	Paul Hicks

Thank you for your submittals, Polleke Siraa - psiraa@earthlink.net.

Welcome New Members!

NJ Brandell, 4355 S. Gibraltar St., Centennial, CO 80015, 303.690.0773

Jean Stevenson, 19513 E. Princeton Place, Aurora, CO 80013, 303. 699.5135

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

Paul and Janet Barrett (RBA, EEF), Cris Cook (RBA, EEF), Kevin Corwin (RBA, EEF), Theresa Damian (RBA), James Fischer (RBA), Mary Geder (RBA, EEF), Tina Jones (RBA, EEF), Deb Ostergard (RBA)

Sally Plummer (RBA, EEF), Regina Reynolds (EEF), Peggy Roberts (RBA, EEF), Paul Slingsby (EEF)

Ann Sprague and Jo-Ann Garavaglia (RBA), William and Nancy Urquhart (RBA),

Thank you all for your support.

If there are additional existing members paying dues after Mar 5, 2007 an addendum to the roster will be published in the May Lark Bunting.

The Birdhouse Network: A Decade of Dedication

Contact: Tina Phillips, Project Leader
(607) 254-2482

For Immediate Release
February 7, 2007

cbp6@cornell.edu

Citizen scientists keep tabs on the lives of nesting birds

Ithaca, NY-

For 10 years, a network of dedicated birders has made it their mission to help birds by providing nest boxes where birds can raise their families-and by recording information for scientists. Together, they've kept a decade of meticulous records about when the birds build their nests, how many eggs they lay, and when the gawky fledglings take their first flights. Combined, they have sent nearly 70,000 nest records to The Birdhouse Network, a citizen-science project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. These efforts have helped expand scientific knowledge about bluebirds, Tree Swallows, House Wrens, and other cavity-nesting birds for whom the motto may be rephrased, "Hole Sweet Home."

Getting Oriented: Using records from participants, scientists have examined factors that affect the success of nesting birds across time and space. They have found, for example, that in northern latitudes, nest boxes facing east or northeast produce more fledglings. The hypothesis is that cavity entrances facing toward the sunrise remain warmer on cold spring mornings, increasing survival rates. In contrast, the orientation of the nest box has no effect in southern latitudes.

Some Don't Like it Hot: A significantly higher number of eggs fail to hatch in the South than in the North. Researchers are investigating whether prolonged warm temperatures cause some of the eggs to start developing before the female begins incubating, leading to abnormal development. Birds in warmer climates tend to produce more broods-perhaps to balance the loss. Scientists will be keeping close tabs on rates of hatching in the face of global climate change.

The Birdhouse Network also invites participants to help in a special study called Personality Profiles. Participants follow an experimental protocol and observe how birds react to harmless novel objects placed near nest boxes. Scientists use the information to learn more about birds, such as why some species fare better in cities or around people. They invite anyone interested in animal behavior to help by joining the study.

People of all ages and skill levels can be part of The Birdhouse Network. "Without the data sent in by participants, we would not be able to track large-scale trends in the reproductive cycles of these birds," says project leader Tina Phillips. "Whether they monitor one box or 100, our participants are so dedicated to the birds, and the data they provide us year after year are incredibly powerful."

To sign up or find out more about The Birdhouse Network, visit www.birds.cornell.edu/birdhouse, or call (800) 843-2473. The project fee is \$15 (\$12 for Lab members). Join in this spring to "keep your eye on the birdy" and help scientists develop a clearer picture of the intricate and fascinating lives of cavity-nesting birds.

The Denver Field Ornithologists' Organization

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Colorado Rare Bird Alert

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Joyce Takamine,
Dick Kolbe, Dick Schottler.

The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard., Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.



Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Alison Hilf ahilf@aol.com and Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

! Reminder: If your monthly *Lark Bunting* is late in arriving, please call the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750 for field trip information. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Our web www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at **7:30 pm**, and are open to the public without charge. Starting in April (2007) monthly membership meetings are on the fourth Monday, September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting)	\$20.00
---	----------------

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting)	\$25.00
---	----------------

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger)	\$5
--	------------

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert	\$ ____
--	---------

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund	\$ ____
--	---------

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

May 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 5



May Field Trips, 2007

Saturday, May 5 *Belmar Historic Park*

Leader: Karlene Schofield, 303-936-8661

Meet leader at 0700 at the Belmar Historic Park, 800 South Wadsworth Blvd at West Ohio Ave.

Turn west on Ohio Ave. and go two blocks straight ahead into Irongate parking lot and to the lake. Trip will end before noon so lunch is optional. This trip will be an easy hike on wheelchair accessible trails. Bring binoculars and field guide. This is a good trip for novice birders and new members.

Sunday May 6 *Roxborough State Park*

Leader: Doris Cruze, 303-798-8072

Meet leader at 0800 at the Visitor's Center for a moderate hike. This trip often produces golden eagles, grosbeaks and other foothill species. State Parks Pass required or \$5 entrance fee per car. Bring lunch and extra drinking water. Take S. Wadsworth Blvd. past Chatfield S.P. to Waterton Rd on left. Take Waterton Rd. 1.6 miles east to North Rampart Range Rd., turn right and go south 2.3 miles to Roxborough Park Rd. Turn left and follow signs to the park (2.2 miles)

May 11, 12 and 13 **Spring Count Weekend!!!! Bird till you drop!**

Friday, May 11

Lower Bear Creek

Leader: Patty Echelmeyer, 303-233-4947

Meet at 0730 in front of Albertson's, northwest quadrant, South Sheridan Blvd. and Hampden.

Saturday, May 12

Barr Lake periphery

Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644.

Meet at 0700 on access road to entrance station at Barr Lake State Park. This trip does not involve much walking and will be good for people with limited mobility or stamina.

Chatfield State Park

Leader, Joey Kellner, 303-978-1748. Meet at 0600 at West (Deer Creek) entrance to park. State Parks Pass required.

Waterton, downstream. 4-5 mile hike. Wear long pants (not shorts) due to bare-leg-unfriendly plants such as poison ivy, thistles, and knapweed. Leader: Hugh Kingery, 303-814-2723. Meet at 0600 at Discovery Pavilion (left turn immediately after turning from Wadsworth (Colo. 121) onto Waterton/Roxborough road and before the DOW parking lot for Waterton Canyon).

Continued on next page

May 2007 Field Trips, continued

Cherry Creek Reservoir

Leader: Bob Brown, 303-791-6204

Meet at 0700 at Marina on west side (near Cherry Creek high school) of Cherry Creek State Park.

Barr Lake State Park

Leader: Dick Schottler, 303-278-8035

Meet at 0630 at Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory. Exit I-76 at Bromely Lane; go east about ¼ mile and turn right (south) on Lark Bunting Lane, to end of road. This is a ten-mile, all-day hike around the lake. State Parks pass required.

Sunday, May 13

Castlewood Canyon State Park

Leader: Randy Lentz, 303-680-3381.

Meet at 0630 at old entrance. From CO 86, 0.5 miles west of Franktown, turn south on Castlewood Canyon Road, go two miles to old entrance. State Parks pass required.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal

Leader: Urling Kingery, 303-814-2723.

Must register with leader in advance.

Friday, May 11 to Sunday, May 13 *Bonnie State Park*

Leader: Bob Righter, 303-692-8529

Meet leader at the Foster's Campground at 1700, Friday night. Friday night will bird around the Foster's campground area. You can camp there or stay in a motel in Idalia or Burlington. You will need to bring all your meals. Trip will end at noon on Sunday. State Parks Pass is required.

Saturday, May 19

Rocky Mountain Arsenal Trip

David Rhodes, 303-424-8633

Contact leader to reserve a space. This trip is limited to nine participants. Lunch optional-will bird until early afternoon but do bring drinking water. Meet at 0800 at the Visitor Center. Enter the Arsenal via the south entrance at 56th and Havana Sts.

Sunday, May 20

Northeastern Colorado Passerine Chase

Glenn Walbek, 720-560-3671

Meet leader at 0600 at the Colorado Division of Wildlife, 6060 No. Broadway – Exit I-25 at 58th Ave., go west 2 blocks to Broadway, then north 2 blocks to parking lot on right. Plan to carpool from DOW. Bring Habitat Stamp, bug spray, mud boots, lunch and plenty of water for a full day trip chasing passerines in Northeastern Colorado. Trip will check out Prewitt Reservoir and then decide whether to go to Crow Valley, Jackson Reservoir or other places. Group will return to DOW by 5 or 6 pm. Please contact leader to reserve a spot either by phone or email-gwalbek@comcast.net

Wednesday, May 23

Small Owl Prowl

Leader: Ted Floyd, 303-444-6363

Meet at 1900 (7 pm) in the King Soopers parking lot at the southwest intersection of South Broadway and Table Mesa in South Boulder. We will depart promptly for the Flatirons. **CARPOOLING REQUIRED!** We will be parking in locations that can accommodate only two or three vehicles. **THIS IS A STRENUOUS HIKE IN THE DARK IN RUGGED MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN.** We will listen for the following owls: Northern Saw-whet Owl, Northern Pygmy-Owl, and Flammulated Owl. We will also listen for Common Poorwills and nocturnal migrant passerines. Participation limited, RSVP required. Contact Ted Floyd tedfloyd@aba.org to register for the trip.

May 2007 Field Trips, continued

Saturday, Sunday, Monday May 26-28

Crescent Lake Field Trip

Leader: Chris Owens, 303-772-6048

Meet Chris at 0800 at Jim Hamm Nature Center – From I-25 take exit 240. Go west 4 miles on CO 119 to Boulder-Weld Co. Line Road, then 2 miles north to park on left at E. 17th Ave. Plan to stay two nights in motels and eat dinner at restaurants. Bring breakfast and lunch for all three days, bug spray and drinking water and be prepared for all kinds of weather. Return Monday evening by six or seven p.m. Crescent Lake is a wonderful prairie pot-hole preserve in Nebraska where many migratory shorebirds, waders and waterfowl rest and feed before continuing their migration. There is also a good chance of seeing prairie birds like grasshopper sparrows. Contact Chris to make reservations as space is limited. You can email her at Kris2@mindspring.com

Saturday, May 26

South Table Mountain

Leader: Mike Foster, 303-456-2647

Meet leader at Wild Bird Center, in mall just NE of intersection of Youngfield and 32nd Ave (an exit of I-70) is there) at 0700. This will be a half day trip. A gentle ascent of c.700 feet takes us up a riparian corridor and across extensive shrub lands to a grassland on top. There is a surprising variety of species, which Mike has been studying for several years. We'll return to WBC for refreshments.

Sunday, May 27

Rigli Ranch

Leader: Joe Rigli, 970-768-7121

Meet leader at ranch by 0830. From Hudson, go east on CO 52 until it turns north. Don't turn north, but continue east on Morgan County road F to CR 14, then turn north for approximately one mile to first house on left by box-cars. Bring lunch and extra water.

Monday May 28 (Memorial Day)

Wheat Ridge Green Belt

Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644

Meet at 7:30 at Prospect Park Lake near the permanent restrooms, south of West 44th Ave. just east of Robb St. at 0800. This is an excellent area to see warblers as well as shore and water birds. This will be an all day trip so bring lunch. Leader is using a scooter for mobility so this trip is accessible and will involve easy walking only. This is a good trip for novice birders and new members.

Scheduled by Jackie King



Bird Kenya in 2008
See approximately 600
bird species!

Norm Erthal is planning a birding trip to Kenya for

February 16 - March 9, 2008 for 21 days of birding in southern Kenya. The trip will have an experienced Kenyan birding guide, driver, and 4-WD vehicles. You should see in the range of 600 species for the trip along with more mammals than the typical safaris. The cost is about \$6,300 including airfare, guide, vehicle and driver, lodging, and meals, which compares to \$10,000 or more for trips by major tour groups plus airfare.

The trip will include such prime Kenyan birding sites as Mt Kenya, Lake Nakuru, Kakamega Forest, Masai Mara, Amboselli, and Tsavo. Contact Norm at nerthal@comcast.net

March 2007 Field Trip Summaries

March 3, Saturday

Lair O'the Bear (LAI)

Leader(s): Norm Lewis. **Observers:** Meredith Anderson, Gene Ellis, Peggy Gonder, Vaughn Hackett, Linda Macey, Neil Montague, Gretchen Moritz-Hale, Nina Routh, Chris Schoenfelder, Mike Serruto, Paul Slingsby, Fred Streich. **Time:** 0900-1300. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, coniferous, woodland, elevation 6000'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 20-35°F, wind 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 15 species, 79 individuals.

March 4, Sunday

NE Colorado – Ft Morgan, Prewitt and Jackson Reservoirs (NEC)

Leader(s): Norm Erthal. **Observers:** John Drummond, Joe Roller, Eban Getting, Jeanie Howell, Chris Owens. **Time:** 0630-1730. **Distance:** 250 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lakes, shelterbelt, riparian, agriculture, prairie, woodlot, elevation 4000-4800'. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, 27-56°F, west wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 54 species, 14969 individuals.

March 10, Saturday

Bear Creek Lake Park (BEA)

Leader(s): Mike Foster. **Observers:** Judith Bird, Barbara Browne, Jeff Dawson, Mary Lou Dimond, Bill Eden, Gail Evans, Ji Won Han, Gordon Hodgson, Patti O'Neill, Dick Prickett, Warren Roske, Diane Wagner, Aaron Wald, David Wald. **Time:** 0800-1230. **Distance:** 4 miles by car, 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lacustrine, riparian, grassland, shrubland. **Weather:** Cloudy, in the 50s°F. **Totals:** 21 species, 220 individuals.

March 10, Saturday

Pueblo County (PUE)

Leader(s): Meredith Anderson and Charles Thornton-Kolbe. **Observers:** Reilly Moen, Evan Thornton-Kolbe, Emma Thornton-Kolbe, Jack Langon Norton, Paul Langon Norton. **Time:** 0900-1700. **Distance:** 200 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, desert scrub, 5000' elevation. **Weather:** Sunny, 70°F. **Totals:** 38 species, 506 individuals.

March 11, Sunday

Big Dry Creek Open Space, Bull Reservoir, Hunter's Glen Lake, East Lake (BIG)

Leader(s): Meredith Anderson and Nina Routh. **Observers:** Jim Duggan, Neil Montague, Toni Rautus, Paul Slingsby. **Time:** 0815-1545. **Distance:** 4 miles by car, 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** High Plains grassland, streamside riparian, marshes, lakes. **Weather:** Partly cloudy to overcast, dry, occasional light breeze, 34-58°F. **Totals:** 35 species, 829 individuals.

March 17, Saturday

Longmont Area (LON)

Leader(s): Chris Owens. **Observers:** Meredith Anderson, Warren Finch, Peggy Gonder, Gordon Hodgson, Virginia Johnson, Jonathan Kim, Dick Pratt, Mark Rollz, Mary Ellen Sargent, Bob Spencer. **Time:** 0730-1430. **Distance:** 30 miles by car. **Habitat:** Water, agricultural, riparian, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Sunny to partly cloudy, 60-70°F, variable wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 43 species, 1207 individuals.

March 18, Sunday

Walden Ponds/Sawhill Complex (WAL)

Leader(s): Suzi Plooster. **Observers:** Myron Plooster, Ann Conkley, Randi Michaley, Crista Owens, Jim Tetrie, Vance Hackett, Ira Sanders, Lucy Nowak, Sond Necos, Lonny and Casey Frye, Chuck Lowrie, Jim Fischer, Peter Valentine (Australia). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponds, riparian, elevation 4500'. **Weather:** Warm, clear. **Totals:** 28 species, 272 individuals.

March 2007 Field Trip Summaries, continued

March 24, Saturday *Barr Lake State Park (BAR)*
Cancelled due to rain.

March 25, Sunday *Prospect Park (PRO)*

Leader(s): Toni Rautus. **Observers:** Robert Hill, Craig Anderson, Carol Schumacher, Paula Hoffman, Nina Rough, Sue Barnhart, Bill Eden, Steve Stevenson, Jean Stevenson, Fred Hageri. **Time:** 0800-1130. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian and ponds. **Weather:** Sunny, 65°F, southeast wind, 4-7 mph. **Totals:** 40 species, 450 individuals.

March 31, Sunday *Chautauqua Park/Boulder Trails (CHA)* Trip report not available at time of printing.

Tuesday Birders

March 6 *Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield (DEN)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 39 (two groups). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, ponds, cottonwood, willow, cattails, open fields, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Light overcast, 50-60°F, calm. **Totals:** 23 species, 313 individuals.

March 13 *Old Stone House, Bear Creek Greenbelt (OLD)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 40 (two groups). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, cottonwood, willow, with meadows, elevation 5300'. **Weather:** Sunny, 52-70°F, calm. **Totals:** 23 species, 146 individuals.

March 20 *Bear Creek Lake Park, Lakewood (BEA)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 38. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 9 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Reservoir, riparian, cottonwood, willow, cattails, open fields, elevation 5800'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 48-72°F, southeast wind, 0-8 mph. **Totals:** 21 species, 173 individuals.

March 27 *Belmar, Lakewood City Park (BEL)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 30. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Reservoir and ponds, deciduous and evergreen trees, city park, open fields, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Cloudy, 50-60°F, southwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 33 species, 441 individuals.

Audubon Alert

Opposition to Jet Landing Field Near Wildlife Refuge Grows Stronger

The U.S. Navy has proposed once again to put a jet landing field right next to the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge in Eastern North Carolina, winter home to 100,000 swans and geese. It is also home to numerous black bears, and the country's only population of endangered red wolves, as well as Bald Eagles and millions of other birds.

The conflict between jets and birds is inevitable. A recent court-ordered supplemental report reveals just how far the Navy may have to go to try to make the site work: stripping forage crops from 20,000 acres, harassing, and even poisoning birds that might interfere with the jets. Now, North Carolina Governor Easley has joined the chorus calling for the Navy to abandon this disastrous idea. Only leaders in Congress can stop this plan now—watch for an alert from us (Audubon) soon.

[illegible]

March 2007 Field Trip Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS										TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	3 LAI	4 NEC	10 BEA	10 PUE	11 BIG	17 LON	18 WAL	24 -	25 PRO	31 CHA	6 DEN	13 OLD	20 BEA	26 BEL	
Northern Flicker		9	18	8	19	5	3		12		9	17	10	4	114
"Yellow-shafted" race						1									(1)
"Red-shafted" race					(19)	(4)	(3)								(26)
Buff-breasted Flycatcher															0
Black Phoebe				1											1
Northern Shrike		2													2
Steller's Jay			1												1
Blue Jay		5			1		2		2			3		1	14
Black-billed Magpie		13	3	10	33	2			9		4	4	5	1	84
American Crow	1		2	6	5		1		3		9	18		1	46
Common Raven	4				8	1	1		1						15
Horned Lark		75				1									76
Tree Swallow							12								12
Northern Rough-winged Swallow									2						2
Black-capped Chickadee	10		2	10	8		2		12		3	11	3		61
Mountain Chickadee	14														14
Bushtit	12														12
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1														1
White-breasted Nuthatch	2					1						2			5
Pygmy Nuthatch	10														10
Brown Creeper	5														5
Marsh Wren					1										1
American Dipper	4		4			2									10
Ruby-crowned Kinglet												5			5
Eastern Bluebird		5													5
Mountain Bluebird						5									5
Townsend's Solitaire	3														3
American Robin	1	83	16	6	26	10	5		22		3	17	11	10	210
Curve-billed Thrasher				2											2
European Starling		900	28	80	20	350	15		5		30	6	3	6	1441
Cedar Waxwing		160									1				161
Yellow-rumped Warbler				30								1			31
Spotted Towhee									1				1		2
American Tree Sparrow											6			2	8
Fox Sparrow															0
Song Sparrow		1		4	7	4	2		8			6	4	6	42
White-crowned Sparrow				40	5										45
"Gambel's" race					(5)										(5)
Dark-eyed Junco		32		20					1		5			1	59
"Slate-colored" race		(4)													(4)
"Oregon" race		(10)													(10)
"Pink-sided" race		(15)												1	(16)
Red-winged Blackbird		1200	10		30	200	50		9		31	8	50	10	1598
Western Meadowlark		10		2	4	15	1				9		17		68
Common Grackle		25		2					2				1	7	37
House Finch		8	2	6	15	2	2		6		3	1	5	2	52
Pine Siskin	4														4
American Goldfinch		5							1		1				7
House Sparrow		34		10	19	5			1		5		3	3	80
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	79	14969	220	506	829	1207	272	0	450	0	313	146	173	441	19,605
TOTAL SPECIES	15	54	21	38	35	43	28	0	40	0	23	23	21	33	94

Additional Reports March 2007

Species	Dates	Number seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Eared Grebe	3/16	30	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Warren Finch
Hooded Merganser	3/16	10 pairs, swimming	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Warren Finch
Osprey	3/16	1	Cherry Creek Res.	Arapahoe	Warren Finch
Red-tailed Hawk	3/16	17	Castlewood Cyn S.P.	Douglas	Karen Metz & Marrye McGilvray.
Flew northerly on winds aloft through and above Castlewood Canyon. Three, including one Harlan's RTHA, flew low into the canyon while most others stayed higher, especially after 10 AM.					
Merlin	3/18	1	4430 Gladiola, Golden	Jefferson	Robert Spencer
Black-necked Stilt	3/31	1	Loloff Res.	Weld	Robert Spencer
California Gull	3/31	600	48 Lower Latham Rd	Weld	Robert Spencer
N. Saw-whet Owl	3/1-3/14	1	Franktown	Douglas	Uriing & Hugh Kingery
White-throated Swift	3/14	1	Castlewood Cyn S.P.	Douglas	Karen Metz
Evening Grosbeak	3/30	2	Perry Park	Douglas	Carolyn Zwahlen
Great-tailed Grackle	3/31	200+	Loloff Res.	Weld	Robert Spencer

Thank you for your submittals Polleke Siraa - psiraa@earthlink.net

Welcome New (and Returning) Members!

Addendum to 2007 DFO Roster

- ✓ Margo & George Breen, 4665 S. Sheridan Blvd., Bow Mar, CO, 80123, 303.798.5850
- ✓ Norman Erthal, 7558 Urban Way, Arvada, CO 80005, 303.424.6747

New Members:

- ✓ Susan Barnhart, 9637 E. Sand Lily Lane, Parker, CO 80134, 720.842.1499
- ✓ Carol Cook, 140 Everett St., Lakewood, CO 80226, 303.232.3476
- ✓ Michael and Merikaye DiSalle, 2824 S. Bahama St., Aurora, CO 80013

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

- ✓ Carol Cook (RBA), Charles Thornton-Kolbe (RBA, EEF), Shirley Wendell (RBA)

"Celebrate Urban Birds!"

Nationwide event brings attention to urban greening and birds in the city

Ithaca, NY--Amid the concrete jungle of cities, nature can be resilient--given the chance. Urban parks, gardens, and other green areas can host a surprising diversity of birds--whether colorful resident pigeons and adaptable hawks, or far-flung travelers such as warblers and orioles looking for a place to rest during journeys of thousands of miles.

During **May 10-13, 2007**, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology invites city residents to **"Celebrate Urban Birds!"** through activities such as gardening, bird watching, art, and science. These events will raise awareness about birds in the city-and help scientists learn how birds use urban habitats.

People of all ages and backgrounds can participate in any way they wish, on their own or with local organizations. To aid scientists, they can watch city birds for at least 10 minutes, check off 15 target species of birds, and send the information through the mail or the Internet to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Urban Birds Studies project.

"It is vital that we understand how birds are affected by available urban green spaces, including parks, rooftop gardens, and even potted plants on balconies," says project leader Karen Purcell. "Bringing people's attention to urban nature is essential for global conservation awareness and efforts to help birds."

More than 100 organizations will host special events as part "Celebrate Urban Birds," including schools, public gardens, nature centers, museums, and parks. People are also invited to join activities on their own. While supplies last, everyone who signs up will receive a Celebration Kit in English and Spanish with a colorful urban birds poster, educational materials about birds and urban greening, data form, and packet of sunflower seeds to plant in pots and gardens.

Learn more and sign up at www.urbanbirds.org/celebration. Despite the dramatic increase in urbanization, we can still help the birds and connect with nature. Join the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and "Celebrate Urban Birds!"

Contact: Karen Purcell
607-254-2455
kap7@cornell.edu

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Joyce Takamine,
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The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard., Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.



Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Alison Hilf ahilf@aol.com and Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

! Reminder: If your monthly *Lark Bunting* is late in arriving, please call the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750 for field trip information. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Our web www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at **7:30 pm**, and are open to the public without charge. Starting in April (2007) monthly membership meetings are on the fourth Monday, September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting)	\$20.00
--	---------

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting)	\$25.00
--	---------

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger)	\$5
--	-----

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert	\$___
--	-------

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund	\$___
--	-------

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name: _____

Address _____

City	State	Zip
------	-------	-----

Telephone	_____
-----------	-------

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

June 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 6



June Field Trips

Saturday, June 2nd

Fountain Creek and Big Johnson Reservoir

Leader: Sue Schulman, (303)773-3540. Meet Leader at 0800 at the Fountain Creek Visitors' Center - take I-25 south to exit 132, head east and follow the signs to the Center. Full day trip; bring lunch, water, snacks. Plan to stop at Bear Creek Park (west on highway 24) on the way home for some birding in scrub oak habitat.

Sunday, June 3rd

Lyons Area

Leader: Ray Davis, (303)823-5332. Meet leader at 0830 at the Lyons Park 'n Ride, 1/2 block south of the traffic light on the main street. Bird the local good places in the morning and bring lunch to enjoy from Davis' back deck overlooking Boulder County Open Space. A good trip for those who require easy accessibility.

Saturday, June 9th

Plains Conservation Center

Leader: Mary Ann Bonnell, (720)319-1931. This trip held jointly with The PCC and Aurora Parks Dept. Meet Leader at 0830 at the Center: From Parker Road head east on Hampden Ave. past Tower Road to the entrance gate located on the north side of Hampden across from Piccadilly Road (if you get to the landfill, you have missed the gate). This is a 2-mile walk over easy to moderate terrain. Half-day trip; lunch optional.

Saturday, June 16th

Lair 'o the Bear

Leader: Mike Foster, (303)456-2647. One of the hot spots along Bear Creek and an Important Bird Area. Look for spring migrants and summer residents along the riparian trail, then an easy hike through montane shrubs into coniferous forest. Half-day trip; bring water and snacks. From Morrison Road off of C-470, go west on highway 74 through Idledale then look for Lair 'o the Bear on the left as you enter a wide part of the valley and the road begins a long left turn.

Sunday, June 17th

Cherry Creek State Park

Leader: Karen Von Saltza, (303)368-9961. Meet leader at 0800 at the Marina. Carpool from there to various areas for easy walking through riparian areas looking for summer residents. Half-day trip; lunch optional. Please call leader if you plan to attend. Parks pass required.

Sunday, June 24

Bluff Lake Nature Center

Leader: Bill Eden, (303) 92-0255. Meet leader at 0730 at the parking lot: take I-70 to exit 280, Havana Street, turn left at bottom of exit ramp. Proceed over Sand Creek about a mile to the entrance and parking lot on left at top of hill. Marshland and riparian birding on an easy 2-3 mile walk. Half-day trip, lunch optional.

Saturday, June 30 and Sunday/Monday July 1-2 *North Park*

Leader: Chuck Lowrie, (303) 455-8417. Meet at Safeway parking lot on east side of US 40 in Fraser at 0900 on Saturday morning (Fraser is a 1.75 hour drive from Denver). Make reservations for Saturday/Sunday nights in Walden at the North Park Inn (970) 723-4271 or the Chedsey Motel (970) 723-8201. A state park pass is required and (if <65 yrs) a Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp are required. Call leader if going and to arrange carpooling from Denver. Bring water, snacks, lunch items, and clothing for variable weather.

Continued on next page

Field Trip Summaries for April 2007

April 1, Sunday

South Platte Park (SOU)

Leader(s): Dee DeJong. **Observers:** Steve and Kath Smith, Richard Sheppard, Alison Kondler. **Time:** 0800-1000. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, prairie, cottonwood forest. **Weather:** Sunny, clear, 38-45F, northeast wind, 10 mph. **Totals:** 34 species, 178 individuals.

April 7, Saturday

Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)

Leader(s): Randy Lentz. **Observers:** None. **Time:** 0700-1300. **Distance:** 14 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, riparian, grassland, elevation 5300'. **Weather:** Cloudy, light snow, showers, 26-30°F, north wind, 5-15 mph. **Totals:** 52 species, 917 individuals.

April 14, Saturday

Rocky Mountain Arsenal (ROC)

Leader(s): David Rhoades. **Observers:** Dan Beltz, Neil Montague, Patti O'Neill, Marjean Schaeffer. **Time:** 0800-1300. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Lakes, riparian, prairie, shelter belts, elevation 5250'. **Weather:** Clear, breezy, 40-60°F. **Totals:** 46 species, 551 individuals.

April 15, Sunday

Stark Ranch, Aurora (STA)

Leader(s): Mary Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** T Damian, P Hankins, D Hankins, Ted Pinkert, N Leahy, S Leahy, J Walsh. **Time:** 0820-1100. **Distance:** 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lowland riparian, upland, grassland, elevation 5435'. **Weather:** Clear and sunny, partly cloudy, 37-61°F, south wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 101 species, 18 individuals.

April 21, Saturday

Wheat Ridge Greenbelt (WHE)

Leader(s): Peggy Gonder. **Observers:** Diane Carter, Theresa Damian, Debbie Kennedy, Colleen Nonn, Toni Rautus, Karen Von Salza. **Time:** 0800-1230. **Distance:** 3.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, elevation 5300'. **Weather:** Clear and sunny, 55-60°F, wind 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 39 species, 385 individuals.

April 22, Sunday

Longmont Area (LON)

Leader(s): Dick Pratt. **Observers:** None. **Time:** 0800-1430. **Distance:** 60 miles by car. **Habitat:** Riparian, lakes and streams, elevation 4800-5000'. **Weather:** Clear and sunny, afternoon clouds, 60°F, east-northeast, 10-15 mph. **Totals:** 55 species, 1802 individuals.

April 28, Saturday

Hudson Gardens (HUD)

Leader(s): Peggy Hankins. **Observers:** Barbara Bathe, Jacques Chartier, Doris Cruze, Patty Echelmeyer, Alison Kondler, Alistar Montgomery, Barbara Montgomery, Patti O'Neal, Mary Ann Tavery, Chuck Walters. **Time:** 0715-0930. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Varied. **Weather:** Clear, 40-64°F, calm. **Totals:** 29 species, 207 individuals.

April 29, Sunday

Golden Gate Canyon State Park (GOL)

Leader(s): Paula Hansley. **Observers:** Peggy Gonder, Steve McKinney, Barb Thomas. **Time:** 0840-1212. **Distance:** 35 miles by car, ½ mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, aspen, ponderosa, spruce/fir, meadow, elevation 8300-9000'. **Weather:** Clear, 50-65°F, west wind, 0-18 mph. **Totals:** 28 species, 129 individuals.

Tuesday Birders

April 3

Lair O'The Bear (LAI)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell, Else Van Erp and Alice Kruse. **Observers:** 29 (three groups). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, cottonwood, willow and some ponderosa pine and blue spruce, elevation 6530'. **Weather:** Sunny, 36-51°F, southeast wind, 5-15 mph. **Totals:** 18 species, 108 individuals.

April 10

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield (DEN)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 21 (three groups). **Time:** 0900-1130. **Distance:** 1 mile by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, ponds, cottonwood, willow, cattails, open fields, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Sunny to partly cloudy, 39-50°F, variable wind, 0-25 mph. **Totals:** 17 species, 131 individuals.

April 17

Chatfield State Park (CHA)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 17. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, ¾ mile on foot. **Habitat:** Large reservoir, riparian, cottonwood, willow, open grassy areas, elevation 5430'. **Weather:** Overcast, 45-50°F, southeast wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 31 species, 275 individuals.

April 24

Trip cancelled due to inclement weather.

Field Trip Summary Table April 2007

DATE	1	7	14	15	21	22	28	29	3	10	17	24	TOTAL
LOCATION	SOU	CHE	ROC	STA	WHE	LON	HUD	GOL	LAI	DEN	CHA	-	
Pied-billed Grebe					1	1				1			3
Horned Grebe		1											1
Eared Grebe			1			6							7
Western Grebe		12				28					16		56
American White Pelican		45	40			106					75		266
Double-crested Cormorant	1	18	1		50	90	6				4		170
Great Blue Heron	3	7	1		7	29	1			1	5		54
Great Egret						30							30
Snowy Egret					1								1
Black-crowned Night-Heron		3			1	3							7
White-faced Ibis						1							1
Turkey Vulture						1				1	3		5
Canada Goose	11	14	12		100	21	20			32	10		220
Wood Duck	1	2					2						5
Gadwall	4		72			124				2	13		215
American Wigeon		42	9		3	36							90
Mallard	12	50	14	3	25	20	12		10	11	5		162
Blue-winged Teal		3	4				2						9
Cinnamon Teal		6	4			9							19
Northern Shoveler	16		84		18	32					21		171
Northern Pintail			2			3							5
Green-winged Teal	2	40	14		2	24				2			84
Canvasback		36											36
Redhead	15		1		1	6				3			26
Ring-necked Duck		3	5			4					5		17
Lesser Scaup	2	3	80		10	96					2		193
Bufflehead		3	14		6	71							94
Common Goldeneye	2	2	14										18
Hooded Merganser		6			6	4							16
Common Merganser	2	2	1		1						3		9
Red-breasted Merganser						5							5
Ruddy Duck			23										23
Osprey											2		2
Bald Eagle			4			8							12
Northern Harrier		1				2					1		4
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1							1		2
Cooper's Hawk	1				2								3
accipiter sp.	1												1
Swainson's Hawk					1	3	1						5
Red-tailed Hawk		7	6		1	6	1	1	2	2	3		29
Rough-legged Hawk													0
Golden Eagle											1		1
American Kestrel		6	3	2	1	2					3		17

[illegible]

Additional Report April 2007

Species	Dates	# Seen & Notes	Location	County	Observers
Loon, common	4/8	1	McClain Pit, Franktown	Douglas	Glenn Walbek, H&U
Loon, common	4/14	9 (6 in alternate plum., 3 in interm. plumage)	Eleven Mile Reservoir	Park	Norm Erthal, Joey Kellner, Charlie Lawrence, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek, Joe Roller
Goose, greater white-fronted	4/22	1	Verhoeff Reservoir	Bent	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Gregg Goodrich, Loch Kilpatrick, Charlie Lawrence, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Ric Olson, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Steve Stachowiak
Duck, MallardxAm. Black	2/27-3/05	1 pair	Bear Creek Lake Park	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Hawk, broad-winged	4/22	1 adult	Fort Lyon SWA	Bent	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Gregg Goodrich, Loch Kilpatrick, Charlie Lawrence, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Ric Olson, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Steve Stachowiak
Hawk, broad-winged	4/27	1 adult perched	Along Highway 36	Washington	Allison Hliff, Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek, Paul Differding
Falcon, peregrine	4/11	pair flying over	Bear Creek Lake Park	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Falcon, peregrine	4/14	1	Lake George	Park	Norm Erthal, Joey Kellner, Charlie Lawrence, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek, Joe Roller
Falcon, peregrine	4/25	1	Waterton Canyon	Jefferson	Joey Kellner
Dunlin	4/22	1 alternate plumage	Lake Cheraw	Otero	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Gregg Goodrich, Loch Kilpatrick, Charlie Lawrence, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Ric Olson, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Steve Stachowiak
Gull, Bonaparte's	4/17	1	Walker Pit, Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urtling Kingery
Gull, Great Black-backed	4/10	3 (2 ad., 1 3rd winter)	Bear Creek Lake Park	Jefferson	Mike Henwood, Rob Raker
Dove, white-winged	4/21	1 (report of a nest nearby)	Lamar Community College	Powers	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Gregg Goodrich, Loch Kilpatrick, Charlie Lawrence, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Ric Olson, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Steve Stachowiak
N. Saw-whet Owl	4/03-4/24	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urtling Kingery
Poorwill, Common	4/28	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urtling Kingery
Hummingbird, Broad-tailed	4/15	1	Genesee Mtn.	Jefferson	Alice Selby
Bushtit	3/21-3/23	1 pair building nest	Bear Creek Lake Park	Jefferson	Mike Henwood, Rob Raker, Mike Foster
Bushtit	4/1	2 (1 m, 1 f...nesting?)	Mt. Falcon	Jefferson	Joey Kellner, Amy Kellner, Rich Merritt (NY)
Wren, Bewick's	4/2	1	Belmar Park	Jefferson	Karleen Schofield
Gnatcatcher, Blue-grey	4/23	1	Cherry Creek State Park	Douglas	Karen Metz
Thrasher, Brown	4/22	1	Parker	Douglas	Brenda Beatty
Waxwing, Bohemian	3/18	30	Mills Lake, Rocky Mountain National Park	Larimer	Polly and Gene Reetz
Warbler, Palm	4/21	1, West. race	Two Buttes Reservoir	Baca	Ric Olson, Joey Kellner
Warbler, Black-and-white	4/22	1 female	Lake Hasty Campground	Bent	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Gregg Goodrich, Loch Kilpatrick, Charlie Lawrence, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Ric Olson, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Steve Stachowiak
Sparrow, Am. tree	3/14	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urtling Kingery
Black-throated Sparrow	3/23	1, flew into window. Specimen to DMNS	Rocky Mtn Arsenal	Adams	Mindy Hetrick
Sparrow, golden-crowned	4/14	1 adult (photos)	Canon City-Tunnel Drive	Fremont	Norm Erthal, Joey Kellner, Charlie Lawrence, Dick Schottler, Glenn Walbek, Joe Roller
Blackbird, rusty	4/27	1 male (photos)	Thompson Ranch	Washington	Allison Hliff, Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek, Paul Differding

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The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard., Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at **7:30 pm**, and are open to the public without charge. Starting in April (2007) monthly membership meetings are on the fourth Monday, September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting)	\$20.00
--	---------

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting)	\$25.00
--	---------

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger)	\$5
--	-----

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert	\$_____
--	---------

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund	\$_____
--	---------

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

July 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 7

July Field Trips

Saturday, June 30 and Sunday/Monday July 1-2

North Park

Leader: Chuck Lowrie, (303) 455-8417. Meet at Safeway... parking lot on east side of US 40 in Fraser at 0900 on Saturday morning (Fraser is a 1.75 hour drive from Denver). Make reservations for Saturday/Sunday nights in Walden at the North Park Inn (970) 723-4271 or the Chedsey Motel (970) 723-8201. A state park pass is required and (if <65 yrs) a Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp are required. Call leader if going and to arrange carpooling from Denver. Bring water, snacks, lunch items, and clothing for variable weather.

Saturday, July 7

Parker Regional Park

Leader: Mary Burger, (303) 771-3431. Meet at 0730 in park's parking lot. From intersection of Main Street and Highway 83 in Parker, go south 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Indian Pipe Lane to parking area. Lunch optional. Trip will include nearby water treatment ponds and may continue into early afternoon

Sunday, July 8

Lair O' the Bear Open Space Park

Leaders: Lee Ann and Bob Brown, (303) 791-6204. Meet at 0800 at Lair O' the Bear parking lot. Go 4 miles west of Morrison on CO 74. ½ day trip. Lunch optional. Good birds and probably no bears! Good for new birders.

Saturday, July 14

Lyons Area

Leader: Ray Davis, (303) 823-5332. Meet leader at Lyons Park 'n Ride at 0830 – ½ block south of traffic light on the main street. Bring lunch to enjoy on Davis' deck overlooking Boulder County Open Space. Lots of humming birds and 30+ nest boxes!

Sunday, July 15

Rocky Mountain National Park

Leader: Ed Holub, (303) 979-2194. Meet at 0815 at Visitors' Center, east of Beaver Meadows entrance on U.S. 36 to carpool. Be prepared for variable weather and a full day of birding. Bring lunch and National Parks pass.

Saturday, July 21

Filius Park and Mt. Evans

Leader: Lynn Willcockson, (303) 757-7000. Meet at 0730 at Filius Park. Go west on I-70 to Evergreen exit, then to first Bergen Park exit and turn right to Filius Park. Full day of birding. Bring lunch and water. A fee may be charged by U.S. Forest Service. Golden Eagle pass can be used. Possible pipits and rosy finches.

Sunday, July 22

Genesee Mountain area

Leader: Alison Kondler, (303) 904-9140. Meet leader at Matthews/Winters Park at 0800. (Exit 259 off I-70- Morrison exit – go left under I-70, south on Highway 26, then right at sign for Matthews/ Winters) ½ day trip, lunch optional, snacks and water good idea. We'll carpool to see families of high country species.

Saturday & Sunday, July 28-29

Grand Valley Hummingbirds and Western Slope Specialties- combined trip DFO and Boulder Bird Club

Leader: Chuck Lowrie, (303) 455-8417. Make reservations for Saturday night at the Clifton Inn (970) 434-3400 or camp at Island Acres State Park (303) 470-1144 or at ReserveAmerica.com – Loop A for RVs or Loop B for tents. We'll visit Master hummingbird banders Debbie and Steve Bouricius at their Palisade farm and research station. Four hummer species, Lewis woodpeckers, Blue Grosbeak, Ash-throated Flycatcher and others nest nearby. Please avoid white or brightly colored clothing and if possible bring an outdoor folding chair. Coal Canyon and Colorado River State Park (Parks Pass needed) are on the agenda. Please call Chuck for other details and to arrange car pooling.

2007 Spring Count Summary

May 11, Friday *Lower Bear Creek (LBC)*

Leader(s): Patty Echelmeyer. **Observers:** Deb Carstenson, Diane Carter, Rick Cresswell, Merikay Haggerty, Joan Hiebr, Peggy Oakes, Betty and Harold Oliver, Joyce Takamine, Mary Ann Tavery, Lynn Willcockson. **Time:** 0730-1600. **Distance:** 17 miles by car, 3.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, lakes, fields, suburbs, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Beautiful, 65-85°F, no wind. **Totals:** 61 species, 865 individuals.

May 12, Saturday *Barr Lake Periphery (BLP)*

Leader(s): Jackie King. **Observers:** Joyce and Connie Takamine. **Time:** 0700-1330. **Distance:** 73 miles by car, .5 on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian and plains, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** 65-86°F, south wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 58 species, 1302 individuals.

May 12, Saturday *Chatfield State Park (CSP)*

Leader(s): Joey Kellner. **Observers:** Paul Differding, Allison Hilf, Jill Holden, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller. **Time:** 0600-1853. **Distance:** 35.7 miles by car, 5.5 miles on foot. **Weather:** Mostly clear becoming cloudy with afternoon thunderstorms, 61-82°F, southwest wind, 2-15 mph. **Totals:** 85 species, 1124 individuals.

May 12, Saturday *Waterton (WAT)*

Leader(s): Hugh Kingery. **Observers:** EB Ellis, Peter Gillette, Joan Heiber, Christy Honnen, Urling Kingery, Alison Kondler, Kent Kreider, Liz Kreider, Meredith McBirney, Nancy Osborne, Deb Ostergard. **Time:** 0600-1430. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, grassland, gravel ponds. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, rainstorm at end, 50-75°F. **Totals:** 72 species, 986 individuals.

May 12, Saturday *Cherry Creek Reservoir (CHE)*

Leader(s): Bob Brown. **Observers:** Patty Echelmeyer, Mary Keithler, Nancy Pinkert, Ted Pinkert, Joyce Schmidt. **Time:** 0630-1230. **Distance:** 12 miles by car, miles on foot. **Habitat:** Suburban riparian and open water, elevation 5350'. **Weather:** Clear early, some clouds late, 60-80°F, calm early, wind north to 10 mph late. **Totals:** 53 species, 542 individuals.

May 12, Saturday *Barr Lake State Park (BLSP)*

Leader(s): Dick Schottler. **Observers:** None. **Time:** 0600-1445. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 5.5 miles on foot. **Weather:** Morning clear, afternoon mostly cloudy, 55-80°F, west wind, 0-25 mph. **Totals:** 64 species, 920 individuals.

May 13, Sunday *Castlewood Canyon State Park (CCSP)*

Leader(s): Randy Lentz. **Observers:** None. **Time:** 0500-1330. **Distance:** 18 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Foothills, grassland, scrub oak, douglas fir-pine, riparian, elevation 6300'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 50-84°F, west wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 65 species, 585 individuals.

May 13, Sunday *Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA)*

Leader(s): Urling Kingery. **Observers:** Bonnie Bailey, Bill Eden, Hugh Kingery, Allen Stokes, Brenda Stokes, Connie Takamine, Joyce Takamine, Karen vonSaltza. **Habitat:** Riparian, prairie, locust groves, lakes, marshes. **Weather:** Clear and sunny, 50-80°F. **Totals:** 85 species, 1128 individuals.

2007 Spring Count Summary Table

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TOTAL
	11 LBC	12 BLP	12 CSP	12 WAT	12 CHE	12 BLSP	13 CCSP	13 RMA	
Common Loon	1								1
Pied-billed Grebe		6						1	7
Eared Grebe						2			2
Western Grebe	3	1	4	1		13			22
Clark's Grebe					1	1			2
American White Pelican	2	3	46	7	49	3		1	111
Double-crested Cormorant	32	16	21	12	32	37	5	2	157
Great Blue Heron	32	8	5	5	6	11			67
Snowy Egret	2							1	3
Black-crowned Night-Heron	4		2		4				10
White-faced Ibis		31	23		19				73
Turkey Vulture	4		3	1			25		33
Canada Goose	26	25	43	24	19	80	7	30	254
Wood Duck	5		1	7		2		5	20
Gadwall	11	2			5	6	2	17	43
American Wigeon			1	2					3
Mallard	55	22	29	15	12	30	5	29	197
Blue-winged Teal	5	10			3			7	25
Cinnamon Teal		2		2	5	3		3	15
Northern Shoveler	5	2	2		6			23	38
Northern Pintail		4						1	5
Green-winged Teal			2		3	6		3	14
Canvasback								1	1
Redhead		7						16	23
Ring-necked Duck						3		2	5
Lesser Scaup		2				4		3	9
Bufflehead								4	4
Hooded Merganser		1							1
Common Merganser			13	14					27
Red-breasted Merganser	2								2
Ruddy Duck						10		10	20
Osprey			1	1					2
Bald Eagle						2		2	4
Northern Harrier						1			1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2		1						3
Cooper's Hawk			2	1				1	4
Swainson's Hawk		20			2	4		6	32
Red-tailed Hawk	2	1	8	5		1	6	6	29
western races						(1)			(1)
Rough-legged Hawk									0
Golden Eagle							1		1
American Kestrel		8	2	3		2		4	19
Peregrine Falcon								1	1
Prairie Falcon							1		1
Ring-necked Pheasant		3			1	3		3	10
Wild Turkey							2		2
Virginia Rail			3	2				1	6
Sora			1	1	3			3	8
American Coot	9	24				27		7	67
Killdeer	14	20	6	10	6	9		27	92
American Avocet		11		2				6	19
Greater Yellowlegs		2							2
Lesser Yellowlegs	1								1
Willet	2				2				4
Spotted Sandpiper	14	5	10	6	4	6		2	47
Sanderling	1								1
Baird's Sandpiper	3								3

2007 Spring Count Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TOTAL
	11 LBC	12 BLP	12 CSP	12 WAT	12 CHE	12 BLSP	13 CCSP	13 RMA	
Long-billed Dowitcher		1							1
Wilson's Snipe					1				1
Wilson's Phalarope		25			7			11	43
Red-necked Phalarope									0
Franklin's Gull		1							1
Ring-billed Gull	2	75	9		113	8			207
California Gull		5	3	3					11
Ivory Gull									0
Rock Pigeon	14	4	12	6		5	2	2	45
Eurasian Collared-dove		1		1				1	3
Mourning Dove	51	121	10	16	6	75	38	127	444
Great Horned Owl	3		3	2	3	1		1	13
Burrowing Owl		5						4	9
Long-eared Owl								1	1
Common Poorwill							3		3
White-throated Swift							6		6
Black-chinned Hummingbird			5		1				6
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	1		13	9			8	2	33
Rufous Hummingbird									0
hummingbird sp.						1			1
Belted Kingfisher		1	1	1		1			4
Downy Woodpecker	4		4	1	1	2	4	2	18
"RockyMountain" race							(4)		(4)
Hairy Woodpecker								1	1
Northern Flicker	35	1	5	7	1	5	5	7	66
"Red-shafted" race			(5)	(7)		(5)	(5)	(7)	(29)
Western Wood-Pewee			8	1		1		1	11
Least Flycatcher			11						11
Dusky Flycatcher				2				1	3
Buff-breasted Flycatcher									0
empidonax sp.						1		1	2
Say's Phoebe			6	3			2	1	12
Cassin's Kingbird		1	1						2
Western Kingbird	4	65	7	11	11	48		78	224
Eastern Kingbird		6	3	3		9		13	34
Loggerhead Shrike		3							3
Plumbeous Vireo							3		3
Warbling Vireo			4	8		5	4	6	27
Steller's Jay							5		5
Blue Jay		2	2		3			2	9
Western Scrub-Jay							1		1
Black-billed Magpie	25	2	16	6	9	4	3	8	73
American Crow	13		2	2	2		2	3	24
Common Raven			2	1			3		6
Horned Lark		17	5	1				2	25
Tree Swallow	4		80	6	4	5	23	10	132
Violet-green Swallow	1				1		80		82

2007 Spring Count Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TOTAL
	11 LBC	12 BLP	12 CSP	12 WAT	12 CHE	12 BLSP	13 CCSP	13 RMA	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	2		1	9		9	8		29
Bank Swallow			60						60
Cliff Swallow	46	195	40	150		30		78	539
Barn Swallow	3	19	9	16	14	8		4	73
Black-capped Chickadee	17		8	7	3	2	3	2	42
Mountain Chickadee							5		5
Bushtit							1		1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2						1		3
White-breasted Nuthatch	1		2				5		8
Pygmy Nuthatch							6		6
Rock Wren			3						3
House Wren	39		90	111	1	40	36	45	362
Marsh Wren					20				20
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1								1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1		15	1			7	14	38
Western Bluebird							35		35
Mountain Bluebird			1				22		23
Hermit Thrush						1	1	1	3
American Robin	51	13	34	15	15	26	33	67	254
Gray Catbird			9	23			3		35
European Starling	45	150	28	51	11	53	18	35	391
American Pipit	6								6
Cedar Waxwing			12	3					15
Orange-crowned Warbler			1			1			2
Virginia's Warbler				1				1	2
Yellow Warbler	28	2	98	157	14	38	9	14	360
Yellow-rumped Warbler		1	5	2	1	4	2		15
"Myrtle" race			2						(2)
"Audubon's" race			3			2	2		(7)
Black-and-white Warbler							1		1
Ovenbird							1		1
Common Yellowthroat		3	4	5	2	4	1	7	26
Wilson's Warbler				1					1
Yellow-breasted Chat			17	20			1		38
Western Tanager	1		1					6	8
Green-tailed Towhee						1	1		2
Spotted Towhee	1		20	10			39	2	72
Chipping Sparrow			15	1		2	1	4	23
Brewer's Sparrow			2					1	3
Vesper Sparrow			5	2			21	2	30
Lark Sparrow		6	16				1	11	34
Savannah Sparrow			1						1
Fox Sparrow									0
Song Sparrow	21		6	11	2	4	4	1	49
Lincoln's Sparrow			5	2					7

2007 Spring Count Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TOTAL
	11	12	12	12	12	12	13	13	
	LBC	BLP	CSP	WAT	CHE	BLSP	CCSP	RMA	
White-crowned Sparrow			3	1					4
Dark-eyed Junco "Gray-headed" race							1 1		1 (1)
Black-headed Grosbeak			2				13	1	16
Lazuli Bunting							2		2
Bobolink							3		3
Red-winged Blackbird	75	88	53	78	23	92	11	124	544
Western Meadowlark		45	24	41	7	9	14	57	197
Yellow-headed Blackbird	5	43			36	2		8	94
Brewer's Blackbird	4		2	9	3		1	5	24
Common Grackle	16	83	14	14	18	84		18	247
Great-tailed Grackle								1	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	14		50		9	21	12	15	121
Orchard Oriole						2			2
Bullock's Oriole	16	4	14	6	4	27	1	72	144
House Finch	34	13	3	8	4	2	3	8	75
Lesser Goldfinch			3	1			1		5
American Goldfinch	2		7	9	8	6	11	7	50
Evening Grosbeak				2					2
House Sparrow	40	65		8	2	15		4	134
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	865	1302	1124	986	542	920	585	1128	7,452
TOTAL SPECIES	61	58	85	72	53	64	65	85	155

OBSERVATION LEGEND:

a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
 c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare,unusual, + =also/in addition to,
 x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated

Addendum to 2007 DFO Roster

Tom and Diane Bush, 25 Sand Cherry, Littleton, CO 80127, 303.904.4576

Kathanne Lynch, 1298 Northridge Ct., Golden, CO 80401, 303.526.0670

Welcome New Members!

Bev Beehler, 6633 Moore St, Arvada, CO 80004, 303.421.6916

Barbara Cavender, 2330 Oneida St., Denver, CO 80207, 303.388.9436

Clint & Carol Flynn, 7357 W. Grant Ranch Blvd #3011, Lakewood, CO 80123, 303.904.3985

Susan Osborn, 1167 S. Monaco Pkwy, Denver, CO 80224, 303.639.5343

Bill and Paige Riggs, 8839 Cloverleaf Cir., Parker, CO 80134, 303.400.5013

Betsy Shaw, 715 S. Alton Way #9D, Denver, CO 80247, 303.343.6699

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund: Tom and Diane Bush (EEF, RBA)

Thank you!

Field Trip Summaries May 2007

May 5, Saturday *Belmar Historic Park (BEL)*

Leader(s): Karleen Schofield. **Observers:** Carol Cook, Marlene and Ray Feldt, Leslie Gerard, Mary Ellen Sargent. **Time:** 0700. **Distance:** 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Man-made lake, riparian, wetlands, grassland and creek, elevation 5400'. **Weather:** Cool, damp, overcast to sun, 44-65°F, calm. **Totals:** 48 species, 491 individuals.

May 6, Sunday *Roxborough State Park (ROX)*

Leader(s): Doris Cruze. **Observers:** Jacques Chartier, Tracy Huston, Steve McKinney. **Time:** 0800-1130. **Distance:** 2.4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Oak forest, open meadows, sedge meadow. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 41-54°F. **Totals:** 26 species, 141 individuals.

May 11-13, Fri-Sun *Bonnie State Park (BON)*

Leader(s): Bob Righter. **Observers:** Kathy and Jeff Dunning, Glenn and Jeane Hageman, Chuck Lowrie, Jack and Joan Whiting. **Time:** 0800-1600. **Distance:** 20 miles by car, 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Aquatic, forest, grassland, shelterbelts, elevation 3900'. **Weather:** Clear, 65-5°F, north wind, 15-25 mph. **Totals:** 107 species, 1202 individuals.

May 19, Saturday *Rocky Mountain Arsenal (ROC)*

Leader(s): David Rhoades. **Observers:** Vince Anderson, Neal Montague, Colleen Nunn, Susan Osborne, Bill Riggs, Page Riggs, Peter Spanberger, Rich Stevens. **Time:** 0800-1330. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Prairie, lakes, riparian, woodlands, shelterbelts, elevation 5250'. **Weather:** Clear, 80°F. **Totals:** 46 species, 254 individuals.

May 20, Sunday *Northeastern Colorado (NOR)*

Leader(s): Glenn Walbek. **Observers:** L Kilpatrick, J Breitsch, P Tarrall, T Jones, P Gonder, M Smith, D Luck, F Sperl, N Erthal, J Drummond, R Bowling, R Bowling. **Time:** 0730-1800. **Distance:** 274 miles by car, 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Shortgrass prairie, riparian, lake, elevation 4900'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 58-83°F, southwest wind, 5-10 mph. **Totals:** 104 species, 1690 individuals.

May 26-28, Sat-Mon *Crescent Lake (CRE)*

Leader(s): Chris Owens. **Observers:** Mary Cay Burger, Dave Elwonger, Gail Evans, Diane Luck, Sue Schulman, Margaret Smith. **Time:** 0800 Sat -1530 Mon. **Distance:** 600 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Prairie, ponds and lakes, riparian, low pine hills, elevation 2200'. **Weather:** Clear to overcast, 45-75°F, variable wind, calm to 20 mph. **Totals:** 114 species, 2137 individuals.

May 26, Saturday *South Table Mountain (SOU)*

Leader(s): Mike Foster. **Observers:** Sheila Duranso, Jeanne Howell, Don Kaup, Lester Lehman, Tom Parchman, Buzz Shaumberg, Elizabeth Smith. **Time:** 0715-1200. **Distance:** 4 miles by car, 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Emergent wetland, shortgrass prairie, mountain shrub, urban, lowland riparian. **Weather:** Clear, warm, slight breeze. **Totals:** 29 species, 144 individuals.

May 27, Sunday *Rigli Ranch (RIG)*

Leader(s): Joe Rigli. **Observers:** Jacques Chartier, Cliff and Pauline Ide, Peter Spanberger, Joyce and Connie Takamine. **Time:** 0900-1430. **Distance:** 20 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian woodlands, sandhill sagebrush, fields, shortgrass prairie, elevation 4330'. **Weather:** Clear, cool, sunny morning, partly cloudy, hot, sunny afternoon, 66-84°F, northwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 36 species, 136 individuals.

May 28, Monday *Wheat Ridge Green Belt (WHE)*

Leader(s): Jackie King. **Observers:** Peggy Gonder, Tim Smart. **Time:** 0730-1130. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Clear and very warm, 58-85°F, west wind, 0-3 mph. **Totals:** 40 species, 420 individuals.

SPECIES	DFO FIELD TRIPS									TUESDAY BIRDERS						TOTAL
	5	6	11-13	19	20	26-28	26	27	28	1	8	15	15	22	29	
DATE	BEL	ROX	BON	ROC	NOR	CRE	SOU	RIG	WHE	HAW	BAR	HAN	SOU	LOW	AUD	
LOCATION																
Pied-billed Grebe			2		1											3
Eared Grebe			6			30										36
Western Grebe			6		8	8			1			2				25
Clark's Grebe			1													1
American White Pelican					125	3					9					137
Double-crested Cormorant	5			3	35	20	1		80				1		4	149
American Bittern						1										1
Great Blue Heron			6	1	7	11			7				1		2	35
Great Egret					2											2
Snowy Egret	5								4							9
Green Heron					1											1
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1			1					4							6
White-faced Ibis					32	3										35
Turkey Vulture		10	20			3	2						4	1	1	41
Greater White-fronted Goose hybrid	1															1
Canada Goose	77	2	8	15	43	56	6		80		2		2		1	291
Trumpeter Swan						2										2
Wood Duck	1		1	2		1					2					7
Gadwall	2		6	4	11	16					11					50
American Wigeon			4	4		1										9
Mallard	16	2	2	24	25	13	2	2	21	2	10		1	4	4	128
Blue-winged Teal	2		12	4	12	11			2		3	1				47
Cinnamon Teal				7	20	10										37
Northern Shoveler	1		12		15						2					30
Northern Pintail			2		2	5										9
Green-winged Teal	2		12	2	8	6										30
Canvasback					1	6										7
Redhead			2		2	12										16
Ring-necked Duck			1													1
Greater Scaup					4											4
Lesser Scaup			2													2
Ruddy Duck	3		10		11	17										41
Bald Eagle					2											2
Northern Harrier			2		2	3						2				9
Sharp-shinned Hawk										1						1
Cooper's Hawk			2							2						4
Northern Goshawk									1							1
Broad-winged Hawk			1							1						2
Swainson's Hawk			1	5	8	17		1			4					36
Red-tailed Hawk			3	2	2	9	2	4	2	3	1	2	1		2	33
Ferruginous Hawk						1										1
Rough-legged Hawk																0
Golden Eagle		2														

SPECIES	DFO FIELD TRIPS									TUESDAY BIRDERS						TOTAL
	5	6	11-13	19	20	26-28	26	27	28	1	8	15	15	22	29	
LOCATION	HEL	ROX	BCN	ROC	NOR	CRF	SOU	RIG	WHE	HAW	BAR	HAN	SOU	LOW	AUD	
American Avocet					7	30										37
Greater Yellowlegs			2													2
Lesser Yellowlegs			4													4
Willet						12										12
Spotted Sandpiper	4		10	1	5	1			1		3		2			27
Upland Sandpiper						8										8
Long-billed Curlew						16										16
Semipalmated Sandpiper			1		1											2
Least Sandpiper			4													4
White-rumped Sandpiper					9	2										11
Stilt Sandpiper			12		6											18
Long-billed Dowitcher			6		7											13
Wilson's Phalarope			25		50	30										105
Red-necked Phalarope					5	30										35
Franklin's Gull			15		4											19
Ring-billed Gull			3		10											13
Ivory Gull																0
Forster's Tern			1		3	10										14
Black Tern			1		78	33						3				115
Rock Pigeon	35	2	20		10	20	5		5	1						98
Eurasian Collared-dove			16		7	4										27
Mourning Dove	14	4	40	7	32	200	14	3	12	2	18	17	2	1	1	367
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			1													1
Great Horned Owl			3		3	3		3	1		1					14
Burrowing Owl			1	1	2	3		1								8
Long-eared Owl												2				2
Common Nighthawk					1	2		2				2				7
Common Poorwill			1													1
Chimney Swift			8			10										18
White-throated Swift		6								6						12
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	1	6							1	3			5	5	3	24
Rufous Hummingbird																0
Belted Kingfisher	2		1			2									2	7
Red-headed Woodpecker			4		3	4										11
Red-bellied Woodpecker			1													1
Ladder-backed Woodpecker												2				2
Downy Woodpecker					3	1			1		3	2			1	11
Hairy Woodpecker			1		1											2
"eastern" race			1													(1)
Northern Flicker	5	5	2	2	4	3	4		6	3	5		3	1	1	44
"Yellow-shafted" race					2											(2)
"Red-shafted" race	(5)				(2)											(7)
Olive-sided Flycatcher						2					1					3
Western Wood-Pewee																

May 2007 Field Trip Summary Table, continued

SPECIES	DFO FIELD TRIPS									TUESDAY BIRDERS						TOTAL
	5	6	11-13	19	20	26-28	26	27	28	1	8	15	15	22	29	
DATE	BEL	ROX	BON	ROC	NOR	CRE	SOU	RIG	WHE	HAW	BAR	HAN	SOU	LOW	AUD	
LOCATION																
American Avocet					7	30										37
Greater Yellowlegs			2													2
Lesser Yellowlegs			4													4
Willet						12										12
Spotted Sandpiper	4		10	1	5	1			1		3		2			27
Upland Sandpiper						8										8
Long-billed Curlew						16										16
Semipalmated Sandpiper			1		1											2
Least Sandpiper			4													4
White-rumped Sandpiper					9	2										11
Still Sandpiper			12		6											18
Long-billed Dowitcher			6		7											13
Wilson's Phalarope			25		50	30										105
Red-necked Phalarope					5	30										35
Franklin's Gull			15		4											19
Ring-billed Gull			3		10											13
Ivory Gull																0
Forster's Tern			1		3	10										14
Black Tern			1		78	33						3				115
Rock Pigeon	35	2	20		10	20	5		5	1						98
Eurasian Collared-dove			16		7	4										27
Mourning Dove	14	4	40	7	32	200	14	3	12	2	18	17	2	1	1	367
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			1													1
Great Horned Owl			3		3	3		3	1		1					14
Burrowing Owl			1	1	2	3		1								8
Long-eared Owl												2				2
Common Nighthawk					1	2		2				2				7
Common Poorwill			1													1
Chimney Swift			8			10										18
White-throated Swift		6								6						12
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	1	6							1	3			5	5	3	24
Rufous Hummingbird																0
Belted Kingfisher	2		1			2									2	7
Red-headed Woodpecker			4		3	4										11
Red-bellied Woodpecker			1													1
Ladder-backed Woodpecker												2				2
Downy Woodpecker					3	1			1		3	2			1	11
Hairy Woodpecker			1		1											2
"eastern" race			1													(1)
Northern Flicker	5	5	2	2	4	3	4		6	3	5		3	1	1	44
"Yellow-shafted" race					2											(2)
"Red-shafted" race	(5)				(2)											(7)
Olive-sided Flycatcher						2					1					3
Western Wood-Pewee					4	3		2	1					2	6	18
Least Flycatcher			3		1											4
Hammond's Flycatcher												1				1
Cordilleran Flycatcher					1											1
Buff-breasted Flycatcher																0
empidonax sp.						3										3
Eastern Phoebe						2										2

SPECIES	DFO FIELD TRIPS									TUESDAY BIRDERS						TOTAL
	5	6	11-13	19	20	26-28	26	27	28	1	8	15	15	22	29	
DATE	BEL	ROX	BON	ROC	NOR	CRE	SOU	RIG	WHE	HAW	BAR	HAN	SOU	LOW	AUD	
Say's Phoebe		1	1				2	2		2			5	1		14
Great Crested Flycatcher			1													1
Western Kingbird	2		60	22	75	61	7	12	1		45	5	2	1	1	294
Eastern Kingbird			20	3	7	14		2								46
Loggerhead Shrike			1		1	2		2								6
Bell's Vireo			1			2										3
Warbling Vireo	1		50		4	3		1	1		1			4	2	67
Blue Jay	1		8	1	15	5							3			33
Western Scrub-Jay		15								12			4	1		32
Black-billed Magpie	2	2		3	1	3	8	1	1	6			3	3		33
American Crow	8	2	1		1	7			2				3	3	3	30
Common Raven	1	3					2			3			4	2		15
Horned Lark			50	2	45	150		10								257
Tree Swallow	16		10	12		2					1					41
Violet-green Swallow	14	9					2			15	2	1		12		55
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	35		8		1	11		2	12	1					15	85
Bank Swallow			1													1
Cliff Swallow	30		60	2	19	300	10		2							423
Barn Swallow	18		4	2	15	26	8	8	7		2		3	2	1	96
swallow sp.												50				50
Black-capped Chickadee		10	2			2			4	3	3		2	1	2	29
White-breasted Nuthatch						1										1
Pygmy Nuthatch						5										5
Canyon Wren													2			2
House Wren		3	60	4	8	5	2	1		1	11	3	3	3	12	116
Marsh Wren					10	1										11
Ruby-crowned Kinglet					1											1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		10	2	2		2	1			12			10			39
Eastern Bluebird			2		1	1										4
Mountain Bluebird						1							3	1		5
Veery												2				2
Gray-cheeked Thrush					1											1
Swainson's Thrush			4		28	13		6			1	18				70
Hermit Thrush					1			1			5					7
American Robin	21	2	18	9	12	20	9	3	25	4	20	17	1	5	4	170
Gray Catbird			1	1	2	1						3		4	1	13
Northern Mockingbird			1		1			1								3
Brown Thrasher			6		6	6										18
European Starling	17		30	3	179	7	12	2	8		15	32	5	1	1	312
Cedar Waxwing			3		4	40			1			7			1	56
Yellow Warbler			30	4	22	24		1	15		1					

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS									TUESDAY BIRDERS						TOTAL
	5 BEL	6 ROX	11-13 BON	19 ROC	20 NOR	26-28 CRE	26 SOU	27 RIG	28 WHE	1 HAW	8 BAR	15 HAN	15 SOU	22 LOW	29 AUD	
Yellow-breasted Chat			6			4								4	4	18
Western Tanager	1	2			3						2	2	21	3		34
Green-tailed Towhee											1	1				2
Spotted Towhee		21	1			9	4			8	1		27	3		74
Chipping Sparrow	2		30		2	10				3	5		5			57
Clay-colored Sparrow			10													10
Brewer's Sparrow								2								2
Field Sparrow			1													1
Vesper Sparrow	1	2		1		2	2									8
Lark Sparrow			20	4	28	43		3				4		9		111
Lark Bunting			40		55	40		25								160
Savannah Sparrow					1											1
Grasshopper Sparrow						3		2								5
Fox Sparrow																0
Song Sparrow	5					1		2			5		2	1	1	17
Lincoln's Sparrow			1		2											3
White-crowned Sparrow						1					4					5
Dark-eyed Junco																0
McCown's Longspur					29	20										49
Chestnut-collared Longspur					2											2
Northern Cardinal			4													4
Rose-breasted Grosbeak															1	1
Black-headed Grosbeak		12	1	1	1						1	4	4	5	1	30
Blue Grosbeak			1											1		2
Lazuli Bunting													4	6		10
Bobolink					1	3										4
Red-winged Blackbird	34		100	20	212	125	5	2	20		75	15	6		25	639
Eastern Meadowlark						5										5
Western Meadowlark	4	1	40	14	38	125	16	4		4	3	5	4	6		264
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1			5	31	22						15				74
Brewer's Blackbird	5															5
Common Grackle	60		20	14	27	50	8	6	55		25			4	2	271
Great-tailed Grackle			6	1	6	1										14
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	2	10	1	4	12	1	4	8	1	15	2	6	2	7	78
Orchard Oriole			16		6	20		3								45
Baltimore Oriole						1										1
Bullock's Oriole			15	14	18	22	3	10	3		15			7	4	111
House Finch	5	5	12	1		5			4	2		3	1	2		40
Red Crossbill						1										1
Pine Siskin						10										10
Lesser Goldfinch														2	1	3
"Black-backed" race														1		(1)
American Goldfinch			30	1	3	20			7							

Additional Reports May 2007

Species	Dates	Number seen & Notes	Location	County	Observers
Hawk, broad-winged	5/8	1-adult light morph	Chatfield Reservoir	Douglas	Kellner, Joey
Rail, black	5/4	2-heard	Fort Lyon SWA	Bent	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Rail, black	5/5	1-calling	Fort Lyon SWA	Bent	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild, Charlie Lawrence, Larry Modesitt, Steve Larson
Long-billed Curlew	5/4	1	Piccadilly S of 120th Ave	Adams	Bob Brown
Cuckoo, yellow-billed	5/6	1-calling	Two Buttes Reservoir	Baca	Joey Kellner, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Joey Kellner, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Charlie Lawrence, Larry Modesitt, Steve Larson
No. Mockingbird	5/7		1 Cherry Creek State Park	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Vireo, white-eyed	5/4	1-singing	Lamar cemetery at south end of town	Prowers	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Vireo, Cassin's	5/4		1 Private Cheyenne Co. Ranch	Cheyenne	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Warbler, Nashville	5/6	1 female	Two Buttes Reservoir	Baca	Joey Kellner, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Joey Kellner, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Cole Wild, Charlie Lawrence, Larry Modesitt, Steve Larson
Parula, Northern	5/5	1 female	Private Prowers Co Ranch	Prowers	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild, Charlie Lawrence, Larry Modesitt, Steve Larson
Parula, Northern	5/11	1 female	Private Lincoln Co Ranch	Washing ton	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Nathan Pieplow, Joe Roller
Warbler, chestnut-sided	5/11	1 male	Last Chance Rest Area	Washing ton	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Nathan Pieplow, Joe Roller
Warbler, chestnut-sided	5/21	1 male singing	Backyard at 2895 Newland St.	Denver	Patty Echelmeyer
Warbler, Townsend's	5/13	1 female	Thompson Ranch	Washing ton	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Joe Roller
Warbler, blackburnian	5/6	1 male	Thompson Ranch	Washing ton	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Warbler, yellow-throated	5/4-5/5	1-singing	Lamar cemetery at south end of town	Prowers	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Warbler, palm	5/4	1-western race	Private Cheyenne Co. Ranch	Cheyenne	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Warbler, palm	5/5	1-singing	Two Buttes Reservoir	Baca	Joey Kellner, Cole Wild
Warbler, blackpoll	5/4	1 male singing	Private Lincoln Co Ranch	Washing ton	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Warbler, black-and-white	5/4	1 male	Lamar cemetery at south end of town	Prowers	Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild
Warbler, black-and-white	5/5	1 male singing	Two Buttes Reservoir	Baca	Joey Kellner, Paul Differding, Norm Erthal, Bill Fink, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick; Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek, Cole Wild, Charlie Lawrence, Larry Modesitt, Steve Larson

The Denver Field Ornithologists' Organization

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Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750

Joyce Takamine, Dick Kolbe, Dick Schottler.

The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard., Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at **7:30 pm**, and are open to the public without charge. Starting in April (2007) monthly membership meetings are on the fourth Monday, September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting)	\$20.00
--	---------

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting)	\$25.00
--	---------

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger)	\$5
--	-----

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert	\$___
--	-------

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund	\$___
--	-------

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address: _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

August 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 8

"State of Colorado Birds, Declines and Conservation Opportunities"

Speaker Ken Strom, August 27, 2007, 7.30 pm

In May 2007, Audubon Colorado released a report warning of trends showing the decline of several Colorado bird species. Ken Strom, the Director of Bird Conservation and Public Policy for Audubon Colorado, will discuss these findings and what conservation strategies may realistically work to reverse these trends. Ken will also touch on other conservation strategies and priorities for bird watchers, naturalists and conservationists in Colorado.

Ken has worked for the National Audubon Society for 25 years, serving 11 years as the Director of the Rowe Wildlife Sanctuary in central Nebraska and helping to conserve these wetlands for Sandhill Cranes and other wildlife. Since 1994, Ken has worked for Audubon Colorado and most recently as the Director of Bird Conservation and Public Policy. Through unique partnerships he established in Russia and Pakistan - countries without a history of wildlife conservation - thousands of people are being educated today through new "sister centers" there. Finally, Ken directed Audubon's highly visible nationwide population and habitat program that engaged hundreds of leaders and 20,000 activists working on education and public advocacy during the past decade. Millions of Americans learned about the connections between human population growth and the environment as a result of this important initiative.

An excellent writer and speaker, Ken has produced numerous publications for many national organizations and has repeatedly served as a spokesperson on PBS and other television documentaries.

Meeting Date Change Reminder! The Denver Field Ornithologists monthly meetings are now held on the 4th Monday of each month August to April (but excluding December). Upcoming Speakers and Dates! Upcoming speakers include Professor Michael Antolin from CSU on the population dynamics of Burrowing Owls (September 24), Ted Floyd on some interesting aspect of birding (October 29), Norm Erthal on birding in Australia (November 26), and John Drummond on birding in Sri Lanka (January 28). Dates remain the same though speakers are subject to change. All DFO meetings can be interesting and the company of bird watchers is always worthwhile to keep. Thus, mark your calendar for a 7:30 meeting start on these dates. *The next Monthly Meeting of the Denver Field Ornithologists will be Monday, August 27 at 7:30 pm in the Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Park on the northside of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door.*



August Field Trips

Saturday, August 4 *Wheat Ridge Green Belt*

Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644

Meet at 7:30 at Prospect Park Lake near the permanent restrooms, south of West 44th Ave. just east of Robb St. This is an excellent area to see warblers as well as shore and water birds. This will be a half day trip so bringing lunch is optional. Leader is using a scooter for mobility so this trip is accessible and will involve easy walking only. This is a joint trip with Denver Audubon Society.

Saturday, August 4 *Cherry Creek State Park*

Leader: Mary Kay Berger 303-771-343. Meet leader at 7:30 at the East Gate. State Parks Pass required. This will be a half day trip; bring extra water but lunch is optional.

August Field Trips

Sunday, August 5 *Roxborough State Park*

Leaders: Bob and Lea Ann Brown, 303-791-6204

Meet leaders at 0800 at Roxborough Visitor Center. To reach the park, take S. Wadsworth Blvd. past Chatfield S.P. to Waterton Rd. on left. Take Waterton Rd. 1.6 miles east to North Rampart Range Rd., turn right and go south 2.3 miles to Roxborough Park Rd. Turn left and follow signs to the park (2.2 miles). Trip will end around 11:30 so lunch is optional but bring plenty of water. There is a nice place to enjoy lunch at the Visitor Center. This is a good trip for novice birders and new members. State Parks pass required.

Saturday, August 11 *Belmar Historic Park*

Leader: Karlene Schofield, 303-936-8661

Meet leader at 0730 at the Belmar Historic Park, 800 South Wadsworth Blvd at West Ohio Ave. Turn west on Ohio Ave. and go two blocks straight ahead into Irongate parking lot and to the lake. Trip will end before noon so lunch is optional. This trip will be an easy hike on wheelchair accessible trails. Bring binoculars and field guide. This is a good trip for novice birders and new members.

Sunday, August 12 *Red Rocks Denver Mountain Park*

Leader: Patty Echelmeyer, 303-233-4947

Meet leader at 0800 at the Trading Post inside the park. This will be a half day trip, bring extra water. Canyon wrens and white throated swifts are a possibility.

Saturday, August 18 *Longmont Area*

Leaders: Chris Owens 303-772-6048

Meet leader at 0730 at Jim Hamm Park. From I-25 take Exit 240. To reach the park, go west four miles on CO 119 to Boulder-Weld County Line Road, then north two miles to Jim Hamm Park at 17th Ave. This will be a three-quarter day trip so bring lunch and extra water.

Sunday, August 19 *Golden Gate Canyon State Park*

Leaders: Ira and Tammy Sanders, 303-278-7172. Meet leaders at 0700 at the Philips 76 Loaf-N-Jug located north of Golden. It is at the first light north of Hwy 58/6 at the intersection of Iowa and Hwy 93. State Parks Pass required. Bring lunch and extra water. Call leader if going.

Saturday, August 25 *Barr Lake State Park*

Leader: Ed Holub, 303-979-2194

Meet leader at 0730 at the Nature Center in the park. From I-76 east, take the Bromley Lane exit-west to Pica-dilly Lane and turn south to park entrance. Half-day trip, lunch optional. Good trip for novice birders and new members. Easy walking. State Parks Pass required.

Sunday, August 26 *Northeastern Colorado, Prewitt and Jackson Reservoirs*

Leader: Joey Kellner, 303-978-1748

Meet leader at 0530 at the Division of Wildlife, 6060 No. Broadway – Exit I-25 at 58th Ave., go west 2 blocks to Broadway, then north 2 blocks to parking lot on right. Habitat Stamp for State Wildlife Areas and State Parks Pass required. This is an all day trip so bring lunch and plenty of water. Call leader if going.

*Please be sure to contact the leaders if you plan to attend, and also advise them if you
"at the last minute" cannot attend. Thanks.*

Field Trip Summaries, June 2007

June 2, Saturday*Fountain Creek and Big Johnson Reservoir (FOU)*

Leader(s): Sue Schulman. **Observers:** Mary Ellen Sargent, Pamela Wickerd. **Time:** 0700-1300. **Distance:** 138 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, scrub oak, reservoir, elevation 6528'. **Weather:** Clear, sunny, 39-74°F, no wind. **Totals:** 44 species, 369 individuals.

June 3, Sunday*Lyons Area (LYO)*

Leader(s): Raymond Davis. **Observers:** Meredith Anderson, John Breitsch, Warren Finch, Jim Fischer, Nancy Hawkins, Chuck Lowrie, Bob Montgomery, Nina Rough, Mary Ellen Sargent, Pamela Tarrall. **Time:** 0830-1300. **Distance:** 30 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian foothills, fields on plains, feeders at 6000' in open ponderosa. **Weather:** Slight overcast to clear, 65-80°F, no wind. **Totals:** 58 species, 238 individuals.

June 9, Saturday*Plains Conservation Center*

Report not available at time of printing.

June 16, Saturday*Lair 'o the Bear (LAI)*

Leader(s): Mike Foster. **Observers:** Kathleen Chiras, Jean Davis, Bill Eden, Merikay Haggerty, Louis Hornyak, Gill Jackson, Mary Ann Rose, Buzz Schaumberg, Richard Sheppard, Bob Spencer, Sandy Starrett, Jane Stewart. **Time:** 0700-1200. **Distance:** 3 miles by car, 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Foothills riparian, shrub and meadow, mixed conifer, cliff. **Weather:** Clear, warm, overcast near mid-day. **Totals:** 40 species, 133 individuals.

June 17, Sunday*Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)*

Leader(s): Karen von Saltza. **Observers:** Tony Wienard (South Africa), Matt Newport, Sue Schulman, Pauline Ide, Patty Echelmeyer, Mary Keithler, Larry Modesitt, Don Beltz. **Time:** 0800-1200. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Cottonwood, riparian, open water, cattail marsh, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Clear, 75-90°F, south wind, 5-10 mph. **Totals:** 43 species, 387 individuals.

June 23, Saturday*Platte River at 88th (PLA)*

Leader(s): Jackie King. **Observers:** Pauline Ide, Betsy Rumely. **Time:** 0800-1100. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Hot and clear, 78-92°F, southwest wind, 0-2 mph. **Totals:** 25 species, 703 individuals.

June 24, Sunday*Bluff Lake Nature Center (BLU)*

Leader(s): Bill Eden. **Observers:** Kathryn Smith, Pauline Ide, Steve Smith, Mary Burger, Mike Foster, John Shoe, Kris Koff, Gill Jackson, Don Beltz, Mary Ann Ross, Larry Modesitt, Patti O'Neill, Sam Modesitt. **Time:** 0730-1030. **Distance:** 3.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, lowland riparian, cattail marsh. **Weather:** Clear, 75+°F. **Totals:** 34 species, 156 individuals.

Tuesday Birders

June 5*Lair o' the Bear (LAI)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell, Else Van Erp and Alice Kruse. **Observers:** 38 (three groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, cottonwood, willow, ponderosa pine and blue spruce, elevation 6350'. **Weather:** Partly sunny, 62-71°F, southeast wind, 0-6 mph. **Totals:** 44 species, 288 individuals.

June 12*Stapleton Park-Selby's Feeder, Braille Trail, Genessee Mtn Park (STA)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 24 (two groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 4 miles by car, 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, ponderosa pine woodland, elevation 7200-7600'. **Weather:** Cloudy, calm, 58-56°F, northwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 28 species, 118 individuals.

Field Trip Summaries, June 2007 continued

June 19*Castlewood Canyon State Park (CAS)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 13. **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 12 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Ponderosa pine, juniper, riparian, scrub oak, open meadow, elevation 6500'. **Weather:** Sunny, breezy, 75°F, south wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 52 species, 139 individuals.

June 26*Reynolds Park Jeffco Open Space (REY)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 18 (two groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 1 mile by car, 5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian with narrow leaf cottonwood, ponderosa pine and douglas fir, elevation 7100-8000'. **Weather:** Sunny and clear to mostly cloudy, 64-68°F, southeast wind, 0-20 mph gusts. **Totals:** 24 species, 94 individuals.

Welcome New Members!

Mary Ann Rose, 3301 III Loop Unit C, Westminster, CO 80031, 720.887.1251

Rosemary Sleeve, 12826 W. Iliff Ave., Lakewood, CO 80228, 303.985.8361



Help Wanted!

DFO Membership Chair wants to train a replacement/assistant

The Membership job involves maintaining the list of DFO members, collecting dues for existing membership and new members, depositing checks received for dues, maintaining the mailing list for the Lark Bunting, and preparing monthly information for the editor and Treasurer (ie, new members, members contributing to Educational Endowment Fund and Rare Bird Alert, changes to e-mail distribution list for the Lark Bunting, list of checks received and deposited). This job requires basic word processing skills using Microsoft Word and spreadsheet skills using Microsoft Excel. Using Excel, the DFO roster and Lark Bunting mailing list are maintained. The job entails data entry in the spreadsheet (names, addresses, e-mail address, status of dues paid, etc) and sorting specific fields. Additionally, a small spreadsheet is generated each month with a list of membership dues received for that month. Word processing skills using Microsoft Word involve entering names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc for the editor.

The main volume of work for this job occurs during the late October to early February time period when annual membership dues are being collected and the roster is finalized. During this period, 2-4 hours/week of effort could be required. Once that effort is completed in early February, applicants for new membership are received on a periodic basis throughout the remainder of the year. During this period, approximately 2 hours/month of effort could be required.

Membership job description: Please contact Carolyn Cooley 303-798-9010 carolynccooley@msn.com or Mary C Burger 303-771-3431 mcburger3@juno.com

June 2007 Field Trip Table

[illegible]

[illegible]

June 2007 Field Trip Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS							TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	2	3	9	16	17	23	24	5	12	19	26	
	FOU	LYO		LAI	CHE	PLA	BLU	LAI	STA	CAS	REY	
Western Tanager				2				3			4	9
Green-tailed Towhee								1			3	4
Spotted Towhee	2	5		5				13		2		27
Chipping Sparrow		2							3	1	4	10
Vesper Sparrow										2		2
Lark Sparrow		3										3
Fox Sparrow												0
Song Sparrow		2		8	3	1	1	6		1		22
Dark-eyed Junco "Gray-headed" race									4		1	5
Black-headed Grosbeak	2	3		4				9	2	2	1	(1)
Lazuli Bunting		2		3	1			10		1	2	19
Bobolink		6								6		12
Red-winged Blackbird	25	8				30	13	3		7		86
Western Meadowlark	6	2			3					2		13
Brewer's Blackbird		1								1		2
Common Grackle	10	7			9	30	11					67
Brown-headed Cowbird	5	3		1	1	2	4	4	3	1		24
Bullock's Oriole	2	6		2	5	8	6	1		2		32
House Finch	10	9		5	1			7	3			35
Red Crossbill		2										2
Pine Siskin									4		6	10
Lesser Goldfinch "Green-backed" race	4	8		6			1	10	6	9	2	46
"Black-backed" race	4							1	6	2		(9)
American Goldfinch	2	3		1	5		2	5		7		(16)
House Sparrow	2				2	15		8				21
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	369	238	0	133	387	703	156	288	118	139	94	2,625
TOTAL SPECIES	44	58	0	40	43	25	34	44	28	52	24	111

OBSERVATION LEGEND:

a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
 c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare,unusual, + =also/in addition to,
 x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated



Colorado Rare Bird Alert Telephone Line Update

DFO has been working to find another partner to share in the cost of the phone line for the Rare Bird Alert. Due to technical difficulties, the phone line became disconnected during the week of June 25. We hope to have a new partner in the birding community and a long term solution to this problem. Try www.nestlingtours/rarebirdalert.html for any updates or just keep trying 303-659-8750.

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory Picnic

Raptor Biologist to Keynote Annual Picnic

Retired Colorado Department of Wildlife Raptor biologist Jerry Craig will be the keynote speaker at the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) Annual Member Picnic. Craig will speak on the state of raptor conservation. The picnic is slated for August 18, 2007, at the Old Stone House at Barr Lake State park. RMBO members and partners as well as anyone interested in birds is invited to the event which will also feature morning bird walks, visits to the RMBO banding station, and birding workshops. Cost per person is \$1.

RMBO's banding station at Barr Lake State Park will be open from 7 to 9:30 in the morning, and field trips led by RMBO birding experts will leave from the Stone House between 7 and 8 a.m.

Concurrent workshop sessions will begin at 10 and 10:50 a.m. Susie Mottashed, author of *Who Lives In Your Backyard? Creating a journal that opens your eyes and heart to nature's nearby wonders*, will be presenting a workshop on field sketching birds. Bill Schmoker, whose photos are well known to Colorado birders, will present a workshop on digiscoping, and Nathan Pieplow will lead a session on birding by ear.

Check the RMBO web site (www.rmbo.org) for updates on additional workshops and be sure to plan to stay for the BBQ picnic lunch prepared and served by the RMBO board and staff.

Colleagues,

This is to inform you that the Iowa Ornithologists' Union has successfully established the Ann Barker Memorial Library, <http://library.iowabirds.org> or <http://www.iowabirds.org/library>, hosting all issues of *Iowa Bird Life* published from 1931 to present (with the last two years being reserved for IOU member access only). Ann Barker, past president of IOU who died at a young age in 2002, left a generous bequest to IOU. The IOU decided to honor her with this lasting memorial. This library augments the IOU archives in the Iowa State University Special Collections.

If you also wish to access the last two years of *Iowa Bird Life* for a limited time only, you may do so by logging on to <http://iowabirds.org/editor>. A login box will pop up. The user name is iouibl and the password is goldfinch. Click on each issue to view it.

Much credit goes to Ann Johnson, chair of the IOU Publications Committee and IOU Webmaster, who, with her outstanding computer skills, has shepherded this project nearly to completion. We will soon complete Phase 2 of this project by refining the search capabilities to obtain desired search results more quickly and easily.

Our quest for information and assistance has been long and tedious. Ted Floyd, editor of ABA's *Birding*, provided me with the first "lead" to valuable assistance. Many others have helped along the way and deserve thanks. We finally chose a commercial midwestern firm to scan and prepare all the journals. Ann spent many hours providing function to the site. We hope many other birding organizations will provide ornithological researchers with similar tools in the future. Please share this URL with anyone who may find the site useful.

Kay

Kayleen A. Niyo, Ph.D.
Niyo Scientific Communications, Inc.
Editor, *Iowa Bird Life*
Kay@KayNiyo.com

Additional Reports June 2007

Species	Dates	Number seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Common Poorwill	6/26	nest w/eggs	NW of Limon	Elbert	Bill Eden, Hugh Kingery
Rufous Hummingbird	6/30	1	Franktown	Douglas	Karen Metz
Flycatcher, olive-sided	6/1	1	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Flycatcher, Alder	6/1	1 called a few times!	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Flycatcher, willow	6/1	1 calling	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Flycatcher, willow	6/1	2 singing	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Flycatcher, willow	6/2	2 calling	Chatfield Res.	Douglas	Kellner, Joey
Flycatcher, least	6/2	15! calling	Chatfield Res.	Douglas	Kellner, Joey
Flycatcher, cordilleran	6/1	1	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Cassin's Kingbird	6/25	on nest	E of Kiowa	Elbert	H&U
Vireo, red-eyed	6/1	3 late migrants?	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Veery	6/1	1	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Thrush, Swainson's	6/1	130	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Thrush, hermit	6/1	1	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, golden-winged	6/1	1 female	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, orange-crowned	6/1	1 very bright and late	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, chestnut-sided	6/1	1 male	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, yellow-rumped	6/1	1 late for the plains	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, Blackpoll	6/21	1 male singing	South Platte Park	Arapahoe	Joey Kellner, Brenda Kellner
Redstart, American	6/1	1 imm. male	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Ovenbird	6/1	4	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, mourning	6/1	1 singing	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, MacGillivray's	6/1	1 male	Crow Valley Campground	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Junco, gray-headed	6/1	1 late for the plains	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Ric Olson, Joe Roller, Andrew Spencer, Glenn Walbek
Orchard Oriole	6/28	1 f, carry- ing food	Franktown	Douglas	Urling Kingery
Red Crossbill	6/12	3 to 5	E of Kiowa	Elbert	Hugh & Urling Kingery

The Denver Field Ornithologists' Organization

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Joyce Takamine, Dick Kolbe, Dick Schottler.

The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. If facing the main entrance on the north side of the Museum, the security entrance is just to the left of the main entrance. A security guard will be able to direct you upstairs to the Classroom. Meetings start at **7:30 pm**, and are open to the public without charge. Starting in April (2007) monthly membership meetings are on the fourth Monday, September through May. General meetings are held each month (except June, July, August and December). Dates and subjects of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, and in this newsletter.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting)	\$20.00
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One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting)	\$25.00
--	---------

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger)	\$5
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Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert	\$___
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With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](#)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund	\$___
--	-------

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

September

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 9

"The population dynamics of Burrowing Owls"



Dr. Michael Antolin, speaker at the DFO meeting

Monday September 24, 7.30pm

Dr. Antolin's work focuses on the effects of fragmented habitats on the population genetics of animals and plants. More recently, he and his research team have initiated research at the Short Grass Steppe Long Term Ecological Research Site at the Pawnee National Grasslands. They have conducted studies of the population genetics of the Black-tailed Prairie Dog, whose populations are severely affected by local outbreaks of plague. Research has also covered other related and threatened species, such as Burrowing Owls. One issue their research has explored is the fundamental relationship between the dynamics of the Burrowing Owl populations and the dynamics of the Prairie Dog populations and what impact plague has had on these dynamics. Besides studying metapopulation dynamics of these populations, Dr. Antolin's research team has studied the epidemiology of plague in the context of the other rodent communities surrounding prairie dog colonies, the use of a variety of molecular genetic markers including microsatellites, mitochondrial DNA, SSCP, and DNA sequencing.

The Denver Field Ornithologists monthly meetings are now held on the 4th Monday of each month August to April (but excluding December). Upcoming Speakers and Dates! Upcoming speakers include Ted Floyd on some interesting aspect of birding (October 29), Norm Erthal on birding in Australia (November 26), and John Drummond on birding in Sri Lanka (January 28). Dates remain the same though speakers are subject to change. All DFO meetings can be interesting and the company of bird watchers is always worthwhile to keep. Thus, mark your calendar for a 7:30 meeting start on these dates. Meetings are held at the Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door.



September Field Trips

Saturday, September 1

Centennial Cone

Leader: Paul Slingsby (303) 422-3728

Meet leader at 0700 at the west end of the Park 'n Ride at I-70 and Ward Road (NW corner of intersection). This trip will be a smooth 3+ mile hike, some elevation change, with an overlook of Clear Creek. Likely species include tanagers, warblers, woodpeckers, flycatchers, gnatcatchers and accipiters. Full day trip; bring lunch, snacks, water and weather related outerwear.

Sunday, September 2

Rigli Ranch

Leader: Joe Rigli (970) 867-5210

Meet leader at the ranch at 0830. From Hudson, go east on CO Hwy52 until it turns North; do not turn but continue east on Morgan County Road F to CR 14, and go north on CR14 for 1 mile to the ranch. Grassland and riparian species, owls and raptors are all probable. Full day trip; bring lunch, water and sunscreen. For carpool information contact Meredith Anderson (303) 280-8576.

September Field Trips and Fall Bird Count

Saturday and Sunday September 8-9 Fall Bird Count

Denver has conducted Fall Bird Counts for over 20 years. Denver Field Ornithologists and ASGD sponsor this tradition. No fees, but some sites require a state parks pass or pre-registration. Bring binoculars, scopes for the reservoir counts, field guide, and lunch. Everyone welcome to help – more eyes see more birds.

Saturday, September 8

Bear Creek State Park & Marston Lake

Leader: Mike Henwood, 303-716-8551 Meet at 0630 at northwest corner of Hampden (US 285) and So. Sheridan Blvd., in front of Albertson's. Please call leader if you plan to go.

Waterton,

Downstream, 4-5 mile hike. Wear long pants (not shorts) due to bare-leg-unfriendly plants such as poison ivy, thistles, and knapweed. Leader: Hugh Kingery, 303-814-2723. Meet at 0630 at Discovery Pavilion (left turn immediately after turning onto Waterton/Roxborough road and before the DOW parking lot for Waterton Canyon).

Cherry Creek Reservoir

Leader: Bob Brown, 303-791-6204 Meet at 0700 at Marina, inside west gate near Cherry Creek High School. State Parks Pass required.

Chatfield State Park

Leader, Joey Kellner, 303-978-1748. Meet at 0630 at West (Deer Creek) entrance to park. State Parks Pass required.

Barr Lake Periphery.

This trip does not involve much walking and will be good for people with limited mobility or stamina. Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644. Meet at 0700 at entrance gate to Barr Lake State Park.

Barr Lake State Park.

This is a ten-mile (or equivalent), all-day hike around the lake. Leader: Dick Schottler, 303-278-8035. Meet at 0630 at RMBO, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane. South off Bromley Lane; from I-76, first road east of railroad track. State Parks pass required.

Sunday September 9

Castlewood Canyon State Park

Leader: Randy Lentz, 303-680-3381. Meet at 0630 at the Homestead. From CO 86, 0.5 miles west of Franktown, turn south on Castlewood Canyon Road, go two miles to old entrance; Homestead is first parking lot on the left. State Parks pass required.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

Leader: Urling Kingery, 303-814-2723. Call leader to sign up, before Aug. 23.

Saturday, September 15

Lair O the Bear

Leader: Mike Foster (303) 456-2647. Meet leader at 0800 at the park – from Morrison Road off of C470, go west on Hwy 74 through Idledale, then look for Lair O the Bear on your left as you enter a wide part of the valley and the road begins a long left turn. Look for fall migrants on this easy hike through montane to coniferous habitat. Half day trip; bring water and snacks.

September Field Trips, continued

Sunday, September 16***Barr Lake State Park***

Leader: Toni Rautus (303) 422-7322 Meet leader at the Visitor's Center at 0700. Will look for passerines through raptors, shorebirds and waterfowl. Half day trip. State Parks Pass required.

Saturday, September 22***Crow Valley and Eastern Migrant Traps***

Leader: Allison Hilf (303) 888-5110. Meet leader at 0530 at the Division of Wildlife parking lot, 6060 Broadway. We will bird several eastern migrant traps, starting with Crow Valley. Possible other locations will depend on scouting reports and may include Brush SWA, Last Chance, Jackson and Prewitt Reservoirs. This will be a full day trip, but participants will have the option of leaving early and birding only the Crow Valley region. Bring lunch, water, snacks, a scope, if you have one, and "mud" boots (in case we go to Prewitt Reservoir).

Sunday, September 23***Longmont Area***

Leader: Chris Owens (303) 772-6048. Meet leader at 0800 in the parking lot at Jimm Hamm Nature Area. From I-25, take Hwy 119 west to County Line Rd. (Weld CR 1) and go North to 17th. The parking lot is on the left. Three-quarter day trip on foot and by car. Bring lunch, water, snacks and dress for weather.

Saturday, September 29***Rocky Mountain Arsenal***

Leader: Lynn Wilcockson 303.757-7000. Meet leader at 0800 at the south gate at 56th Avenue and Havana Street. Space is limited – call leader to register in advance. Half day trip; lunch optional.

Sunday, September 30***Prewitt Reservoir and Eastern Plains***

Leader: Norm Earthal (303) 424-6747 Meet leader at 0600 at the Division of Wildlife parking lot, 6060 Broadway. Good for shorebirds, grassland species, and migrating passerines. Full day trip; bring lunch, plenty of water, and a scope if you have one.

*Please be sure to contact the leaders if you plan to attend, and also advise them if you
"at the last minute" cannot attend. Thanks.*



Update on the Rare Bird Alert Phone

The Rare Bird Alert phone 303-659-8750 is available for reporting and listening to other reports all over Colorado. We apologize for the line being down for most of July. We thank the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory for their cooperation in keeping this service

Mary Cay Burger

Field Trip Summaries, July 2007

June 30-Jul 2, Sat-Mon *North Park (NOR)*

Leader(s): Chuck Lowrie. **Observers:** Dan Beltz, Gail Campbell, Patty Echelmeyer, Irene Godden, Pauline Ide, George King (Atlanta), Margaret Smith. **Time:** 0530-2100. **Distance:** 146 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Sage, grassland, residential, lakes, willow carr, deciduous and coniferous, elevation 8099-9300'. **Weather:** Clear, 41-80°F, west to northwest wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 100 species, 1398 individuals.

July 7, Saturday *Parker Regional Park (PAR)*

Leader(s): Mary Burger. **Observers:** Teresa Gurth, Pauline Ide, Ella Jones, Jannette Wesley. **Time:** 0800-1200. **Distance:** 1 mile by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Elevation 5600'. **Weather:** Clear, 70-85°F, wind calm. **Totals:** 30 species, 130 individuals.

July 8, Sunday *Lair 'O the Bear Park (LAI)*

Leader(s): Bob Brown. **Observers:** Jean Davis, Warren Finch, Mary Keithler, Chuck Lowrie, Mary Ann Rose. **Time:** 0800-1200. **Distance:** 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Streamside riparian and foothill mixed, elevation 6550'. **Weather:** Clear early, some clouds late, 70-75°F, variable wind, 5-8 mph. **Totals:** 27 species, 113 individuals.

July 14, Saturday *Lyons Area (LYO)*

Leader(s): Raymond with Steve Bouricius. **Observers:** Alan Bell, Patty Echelmeyer, Warren Finch, Elizabeth and Emma Freedman, Gordon Hodgson, Dick Pratt, Mary Rockhold, Karen von Saltza. **Time:** 0830-1400. **Distance:** 60 miles by car, .25 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Mountain riparian along creek at elevation 8500', feeders at elevation 6000' in open ponderosa. **Weather:** Slight overcast to clear, 70-90°F, no wind. **Totals:** 34 species, 204 individuals.

July 15, Sunday *Rocky Mountain National Park (ROC)*

Leader(s): Ed Holub. **Observers:** Sue Barnhart, Lyn Graves, Barbara Hoover, Clifford and Pauline Ide, Matt Newport, Toni Rautus, Nona Rough, Mary Ann Rose. **Time:** 0815-1530. **Distance:** 23.2 miles by car, 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Mountain meadows and parks, mountain woodlands, rivers and streams, elevation 7600-8500'. **Weather:** Sunny to partly cloudy, 55-84°F. **Totals:** 42 species, 232 individuals.

July 21, Saturday *Filius Park, Echo Lake, and Empire (FIL)*

Leader(s): Lynn Willcockson. **Observers:** John Drummond, Warren Finch, Dick Pratt, Bob Shade, Patricia Silvestri. **Time:** 0730-1530. **Distance:** 93 miles by car, 1.25 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponderosa pine, douglas fir and urban area, elevation 7640-10600'. **Weather:** Clear am, partly cloudy to cloudy pm, 62-83°F, variable wind, 0-15 mph. **Totals:** 41 species, 161 individuals.

July 22, Sunday *Genessee Mountain Area (GEN)*

Leader(s): Alison Kondler. **Observers:** Jean Davis, Patty Echelmeyer, Pauline Ide, Kathanne Lynch. **Time:** 0800-1230. **Distance:** 22 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Mountain, meadows, elevation 7000'. **Weather:** Clear, 78°F. **Totals:** 39 species, 247 individuals.

Jul 28-29, Sat-Sun *Grand Valley Hummingbirds and Western Slope Specialties (GRA)*

Leader(s): Chuck Lowrie. **Observers:** George Armbrust, Joanna Chan, Gail Campbell, Patty Echelmeyer, Warren Finch, Terry Gurth, Ed Holub, Linda Holub, Chishun Kwong, Bob Wing, Ru Wing. **Time:** 0600-1045. **Distance:** 274 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Montaine forest, foothills riparian, orchard, residential, elevation 4586-10668'. **Weather:** Clear, clouds, rain, 65-97°F, west wind, 0-20 mph. **Totals:** 65 species, 686 individuals.

Field Trip Summaries, July 2007 continued

Tuesday Birders

July 3

Lair o' the Bear (LAI)

Leader(s): Else Van Erp and Alice Kruse. **Observers:** 16 (two groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, cottonwood, willow, ponderosa pine and blue spruce, elevation 6350'. **Weather:** Sunny, 74-88°F, southeast wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 31 species, 134 individuals.

July 10

Mt Evans - Squaw Pass, Echo and Summit Lakes (MTE)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 12. **Time:** 0830-1300. **Distance:** 40 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Tundra, lakes, ponderosa, lodgepole and bristlecone pine, aspen and some riparian, elevation 7230-11500'. **Weather:** Cloudy to partly sunny, 62-67°F, northwest wind, 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 35 species, 108 individuals.

July 17

Evergreen Lake, Mt Evans Elk Mgt Area, Ground Hog Flats Creek Trail (EVE)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 16. **Time:** 0830-1230. **Distance:** 16 miles by car, 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, ponderosa pin, douglas fir, spruce and aspen, elevation 7040-8400'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 70-87°F, northwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 34 species, 111 individuals.

July 24

Maxwell Falls (MAX)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 12. **Time:** 0830-1230. **Distance:** 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, pine, spruce, aspen, elevation 8500'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 71°F, variable wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 23 species, 70 individuals.

July 31

Hall Valley (HAL)

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 13. **Time:** 0830-1230. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian meadows, willow stands, spruce, lodgepole, ponderosa and aspen woodlands, elevation 9300-10100'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 70-72°F, variable wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 14 species, 75 individuals.

Welcome New Members

Teresa Gurth, 301 W. Jamison Pl #8, Littleton, CO 80120, 303.794.9573

Kathy Hamilton and Greg Lengsfeld, 6191 S. Salida Ct., Aurora, CO 80016, 303.589.1923

Jannette Wesley and Alice Sharp, 7196 W. Vassar Ave., Lakewood, CO 80227, 303.985.5299

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

Teresa Gurth (EEF), Lois Levinson (EEF, RBA), Jannette Wesley and Alice Sharp (RBA)

Thank you for your support!

[illegible]

[illegible]

Field Trip Table, July 2007 continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	30-2	7	8	14	15	21	22	28-29	3	10	17	24	31	
	NOR	PAR	LAI	LYO	ROC	FIL	GEN	GRA	LAI	MTE	EVE	MAX	HAL	
Tree Swallow	15	6		1	10		4	1		4	8			49
Violet-green Swallow	3		8	5	15	11	35	18	2	4	6	5	2	114
Northern Rough-winged Swallow			2											2
Cliff Swallow	20	6	3				2			3	1		30	65
Barn Swallow	20				6		1	2			1			30
swallow sp.									3					3
Black-capped Chickadee		1	5	4	2	1		1	10					24
Mountain Chickadee	5		4	1	11	5	6		3	5	6	8	3	57
Red-breasted Nuthatch				1		6	1			1		6	2	17
White-breasted Nuthatch	1			6	10	4	3		5		2	5		36
Pygmy Nuthatch				4	8	3	18					3		36
Brown Creeper				2		4					1	2		9
Rock Wren								1						1
Canyon Wren								1						1
House Wren	6	4	5	1	25	1	2	2	8		3	1	1	59
Marsh Wren	10													10
American Dipper			1	1				1			1			4
Golden-crowned Kinglet					2							1		3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4					1		2		1		1		9
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			6	3					7					16
Western Bluebird						3	9		1					13
Mountain Bluebird	16			3	18			2		1	2		11	53
Townsend's Solitaire					3	1	1							5
Veery	4													4
Swainson's Thrush	1													1
Hermit Thrush										3		2		5
American Robin	10	6	8	4	2	4	4	5	12	7	4	5	1	72
Gray Catbird			6						7					13
Northern Mockingbird								1						1
Sage Thrasher	6													6
European Starling	12							10		2				24
American Pipit										2				2
Cedar Waxwing		3	3						5					11
Virginia's Warbler			1											1
Yellow Warbler	17		6		1		1		8					33
Yellow-rumped Warbler					6	4		2		4	4			20
"Audubon's" race					6	4		2		4				(16)
MacGillivray's Warbler						1		3						4
Common Yellowthroat	6										1			7
Wilson's Warbler	2					3		5		1				11
Yellow-breasted Chat			1											1
Western Tanager				1	1	2		5	10					19
Green-tailed Towhee					2	2				1				5
Spotted Towhee			7	4					9					20
Chipping Sparrow	8		4	3	12	4	3	1			1			36
Brewer's Sparrow	7				2									9
Vesper Sparrow	4									1				5

Field Trip Table, July 2007 continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	30-2	7	8	14	15	21	22	28-29	3	10	17	24	31	
	NOR	PAR	LAI	LYO	ROC	FIL	GEN	GRA	LAI	MTE	EVE	MAX	HAL	
Savannah Sparrow	5				10									15
Fox Sparrow														0
Song Sparrow	8	2	1				3	1	3	1	2			21
Lincoln's Sparrow					4	6		3		3				16
White-crowned Sparrow	8					7		5		5				25
Dark-eyed Junco	3				3	4	4	3		5	1	3	3	29
"Gray-headed" race	3				3	4		3		5			3	(21)
Black-headed Grosbeak			1	2		4	6	2						15
Blue Grosbeak								2						2
Lazuli Bunting			5						1					6
Red-winged Blackbird	50	20			4		7				10			91
Western Meadowlark	2	4												6
Yellow-headed Blackbird	60													60
Brewer's Blackbird	20							10						30
Common Grackle	15	2												17
Brown-headed Cowbird	20		3				4					1		28
Bullock's Oriole	1	3						3	3					10
Pine Grosbeak	8					2		8						18
Cassin's Finch	6				2	1		1		3				13
House Finch	5	6		15		1	3	50			2			82
Red Crossbill										1		4		5
Pine Siskin	29			3	1	7	16	2		12	2	1	6	79
Lesser Goldfinch		1	10	6		1	18	50	5					91
"Green-backed" race		1												(1)
"Black-backed" race									2					(2)
American Goldfinch	7	20	4						3	1				35
House Sparrow	6			1			1	15						23
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	1398	130	113	204	232	161	247	686	134	108	111	70	75	3,669
TOTAL SPECIES	100	30	27	34	42	41	39	65	31	35	34	23	14	151

OBSERVATION LEGEND:

a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
 c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare,unusual, + =also/in addition to,
 x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated

Additional Reports July 2007

Species	Dates	Number seen	Location	County	Observers & notes
Ash-throated flycatcher	7/19	3, 1 juv.?	Bear Creek Lake Park	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Red-eyed Vireo	7/24, 30	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh & Urling Kingery
White-eyed Vireo	7/6	1	Franktown	Douglas	Hugh Kingery
American Redstart	7/6	1 m singing	Bear Creek Lake Park	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Ovenbird	7/25	2, 1 fledged	Deer Creek Canyon P.	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Ovenbird	7/27	2, 1 singing	Willow Spring Open Space	Jefferson	Mike Henwood, Robert Andrews
Northern Cardinal	7/22	1 m singing	Chatfield S. P.	Douglas/ Jefferson	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek

Sightings for Additional Reports should be sent to Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net
 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

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Joyce Takamine, Dick Kolbe, Dick Schottler.

The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard., Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year.

Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. The meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month except May, June, July and December. Dates and topics of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, www.dfobirders.org and in this newsletter. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are open to the public without charge.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2007 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a **New Membership** or a **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting) \$20.00

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting) \$25.00

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger) \$5

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert \$____

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](http://ColoradoFieldOrnithologists.org)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund \$____

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name:

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

October 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 10

The Most Excellent Birds in the World

Monday, October 29, 7.30 pm

Ted Floyd, Editor of *Birding* magazine and popular speaker on birds and birding.

Besides being the Editor of *Birding* magazine, Ted Floyd has been and will once again be one of DFO's favorite speakers. Ted will reveal to us the ten most excellent birds in the world. The list may surprise you. The list will surprise you.

Ted is senior author of the *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Nevada* (University of Nevada Press, 2007), and author of the forthcoming *Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America* (HarperCollins, 2008). He has also contributed chapters to textbooks and guidebooks published by Oxford University Press, Houghton Mifflin, National Geographic, and others. Ted is the author of more than 100 articles on birds and bird watching, for popular and more professional publications. He is a frequent speaker at birding festivals and ornithological meetings, and he has led birding trips throughout North America. When he is not writing about birds, or rewriting other people's article about birds, Ted listens to nocturnal migrants with his ten-month-old son Andrew and travels on lengthy road trips with his three-year-old daughter Hannah. His wife Kei is epically patient.

The Denver Field Ornithologists meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month August to April (excluding December). Upcoming speakers include Norm Erthal on birding in Australia (November 26), and John Drummond on birding in Sri Lanka (January 28). Dates remain the same though speakers are subject to change. All DFO meetings can be interesting and the company of bird watchers is always worthwhile to keep. Mark your calendar for a 7:30 meeting start on these dates. Meetings are held at the Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door.

October Field Trips



Saturday, October 6

Lair O' the Bear

Leader: Nina Routh (303) 987-8687. Meet at 0800 in the parking lot of Lair O' the Bear. Go 4 miles west of Morrison on Highway 74 and look for park sign. Dress for weather changes. Good number of foothill species probable. ½ day trip, lunch optional.

Sunday, October 7

Chatfield State Park

Leader: Ed Holub, (303) 979-2194. Meet at 0730 at swim beach. From C470, take Wadsworth South 1.5 miles to park entrance. Bring lunch and water and be ready to tally a good list! (Parks Pass required)

Saturday, October 13 *Belmar Historic Park*

Leader: Karleen Schofield (303) 936-8661. Meet at 0830 at the parking lot in Lakewood, 800 S. Wadsworth. Turn west on Ohio Avenue from Wadsworth. Go straight ahead for 2 blocks into Irongate parking area next to the lake. Trip will end at noon. Lunch optional. An early walk on wheelchair accessible trails. Good trip for new birders.

Continued on next page

October 2007 Field Trips

Sunday, October 14 *"The Big Sit"*

Leader: Joey Kellner (303) 978-1748. **Meeting place:** Heron Overlook, Chatfield State Park. From the Wadsworth Blvd entrance, go right at the T and continue around the reservoir, and a half mile after you cross the South Platte River, make a hard left into the large parking lot. At the far right corner, a trail leads down to the Heron Overlook. (Follow the "Big Sit" signs.)

"The Big Sit" – an international birding event, has exacting, loose and frivolous standards. "Big Sitters" count all the birds they see or hear from within a circle with a 17-foot diameter. Count "Sitters" may send out scouts and beaters to find other birds and identify them as long as a "Sitter" sees the bird from within the circle. All around the world, on this date people will Big Sit!

Come and join Joey Kellner, and other recruits any time after dawn, for an hour, a morning, or all day. Drop by whenever you like or volunteer to substitute for "Big Sit" leaders for an hour or two. Joey maintains an hourly chart of the birds that "Sitters" see from the circle. In the past three years he has tallied 55-65 species. Bring chairs, breakfast, lunch, dinner, picnics, coffee, etc. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, and other essential birding equipment. Parks Pass required.

This will be the fifth year DFO has sponsored the "DFO Insaniacs". We've had the highest "Big Sit" total of all teams in Colorado for this event for the last four years. Several other Colorado "Big Sits" have already registered this year, so come help DFO's Big Sit at Chatfield stay on top! Here's the total number of different species seen from the last four years: 2003 - 57 species, 2004 - 61 species, 2005 - 55 species, 2006 - 71 species. You can even stop by and see how they're doing, then go bird other parts of the park and come back to see what's been added.

Saturday, October 20 *Walden Ponds – Boulder Area*

Leader: Ted Floyd (303) 444-6363. Meet leader for "Early Birds Special" at 0600 for a prompt departure or at 0800 for "official" field trip. From Denver, go west on U.S. 36 to Foothills Parkway. Exit C157 then north to Arapahoe Avenue, then east to 75th street. Go north on 75th past Valmont road and railroad tracks. Turn left at Wildlife Habitat sign and follow road to Cottonwood Marsh parking lot. Fun with Floyd!

Sunday, October 21 *Cherry Creek State Park*

Leader: Bob Righter (303) 692-8529. Meet at Marina at 0800 for ½ day trip. Bob knows the area and its up-to-date hot spots.

Saturday, October 27 *Wheatridge Greenbelt*

Leader: Toni Rautus (303) 422-7322. Meet at 0800 at Prospect Park Lake parking area, south off 44th Avenue between Quail & Robb Streets (west of Kipling) ½ day trip - picnic tables for optional lunch. Easy walking, good for new birders Area known for surprise species.

Sunday, October 28 *Barr Lake State Park*

Leader: Karen von Saltza (303) 368-9961 – evenings 6-8 pm. Meet at 0800 at Nature Center parking lot. From Denver, take East I-76 to Bromley Lane, exit 22. Go east on Bromley Lane to Piccadilly Road, then turn south about 2 miles to Park Entrance. Scopes will be appreciated. Trip ends at noon. Easy trails, lots of birds, enthusiastic new leader. Parks Pass required.

Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook.

Field Trip Summaries for August 2007

August 4, Saturday *Wheat Ridge Green Belt (WHE)*

Leader(s): Jackie King. **Observers:** Bob Bethel, Jean Davis, Lois Levinson, John Shaffer, Richard Sheppard, Dayla and Dave Sims, Bob Spencer, Marianne Towey, Jean Trazier. **Time:** 0730-1230. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian and urban, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Sunny and hot, 68-90°F, southwest wind, 1-3 mph. **Totals:** 41 species, 378 individuals.

August 4, Saturday *Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)*

Leader(s): Mary C Burger. **Observers:** Kristine Achziger, Norma Jean Brandell, Paul Dirdak, Denali Hughes, Seaira Hughes, Pauline D Ide, Ann Olsen, John Pancoke, Bob Shade. **Time:** 0730-1200. **Distance:** 5 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Short grass prairie and riparian, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, 75-85°F, calm. **Totals:** 47 species, 278 individuals.

August 5, Sunday *Roxborough State Park (ROX)*

Leader(s): Bob Brown. **Observers:** Daniel Dundon, Denise Dundon. **Time:** 0800-1100. **Distance:** 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, foothills oak, elevation 6230'. **Weather:** Hazy overcast, 65-75°F, north wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 20 species, 108 individuals.

August 11, Saturday *Belmar Historic Park (BEL)*

Leader(s): Karleen Schofield. **Observers:** Deb Dittwer, Nancy Dunkle, Patty Echelmeyer, Melinda McAusted, Gretchen Pascoe, Richard Sheppard, Rosemary Sleeve. **Time:** 0720-1100. **Distance:** 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, grassland, lake, wetland, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 80-90°F, calm. **Totals:** 34 species, 219 individuals.

August 12, Sunday *Red Rocks Denver Mountain Park (RED)*

Leader(s): Patty Echelmeyer. **Observers:** Peggy Gonder, Mary Katz, Alison Kondler, Karen Von Saltza. **Time:** 0800-1100. **Distance:** 2 miles by car, .5 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, rocky, elevation 6000'. **Weather:** Clear, few clouds, hot, 75-90°F, no wind. **Totals:** 21 species, 116 individuals.

August 18, Saturday *Longmont Area (LON)*

Leader(s): Chris Owens. **Observers:** Deb Bogar, Jean Bogar, Tim Bogar (Michigan), Jean Frazier, Chuck Walters, Larry and Roni Wilson. **Time:** 0730-1130. **Distance:** 10 miles by car. **Habitat:** Elevation 5000'. **Weather:** Clear, 70-90°F, calm. **Totals:** 40 species, 759 individuals.

August 19, Sunday *Golden Gate Canyon State Park (GOL)*

Leader(s): Ira and Tammy Sanders. **Observers:** Deb Bogar, Jean Bogar, Tim Bogar (Michigan), Allen Hagood, Ed Holub, Cliff Ide, Pauline Ide, Glen Rodriguez. **Time:** 0700-1430. **Distance:** 80 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, mountain ponds, ponderosa/lodgepole pine, mountain meadows, elevation 6000-9000'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy to rain, 66-73°F, wind 0-10 mph. **Totals:** 46 species, 631 individuals.

August 25, Saturday *Barr Lake State Park (BAR)*

Leader(s): Ed Holub. **Observers:** Robert and Marta Gordon, Pauline Ide, Toni Rautus. **Time:** 0730-1145. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, woodlands, prairie, elevation 5000'. **Weather:** Sunny, warm, 70-85°F. **Totals:** 27 species, 162 individuals.

August 26, Sunday *Northeastern Colorado, Prewitt and Jackson Reservoirs (NOR)*

Leader(s): Joey Kellner. **Observers:** Meredith Anderson, John Breitsch, John Drummond, Patty Echelmeyer, Bill Eden, Allen Hagood, Allison Hilf, Clifford Ide, Pauline Ide, Tina Jones, Loch Kilpatrick, Dick Pratt, Joe Roller, Mike Serruto, Polleke Siraa, Bob Spencer, Connie Takamine, Joyce Takamine, Chuck Walters. **Time:** 0603-1830. **Distance:** 250 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Weather:** Clear becoming partly cloudy, 58-98°F, southeast wind 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 106 species, 1707 individuals.

Field Trip Summaries for August 2007, continued

Tuesday Birders

August 7 *Flying J Ranch Jeffco Open Space Park (FLY)*

Leader(s): Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 25 (two groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 2.7 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponderosa and lodgepole pine, douglas fir, woodland with some meadows, elevation 8000-8200'. **Weather:** Cloudy, 62-70°F. **Totals:** 29 species, 150 individuals.

August 14 *Evergreen Lake, Alderfer Three Sisters Jeffco Open Space Park (EVE)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 20 (two groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 6 miles by car, 3.8 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponderosa pine, douglas fir, aspen woodland and grassy meadows, elevation 7520-7800'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 66-81°F, southeast wind, 0-7 mph. **Totals:** 34 species, 168 individuals.

August 21 *Sedalia Post Office, Bev and John Dugay Residence and Environs (SED)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 20. **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 26 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, willow and ponderosa pine forest, elevation 7200-7300'. **Weather:** Sunny, 68-79°F, variable wind, 0-3 mph. **Totals:** 36 species, 180 individuals.

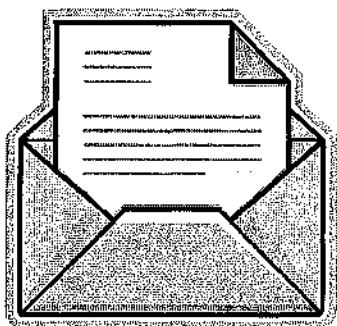
August 28 *Golden Gate State Park (GOL)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 34. **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 20 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Foothills riparian, montane willow carr, mixed conifer, meadows, elevation 8100-9500'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 65-73°F, northwest wind, 0-7 mph. **Totals:** 25 species, 92 individuals.

Welcome New Members !

R.J. Pautsch, 411 Scenic View, Friendswood, TX 77546, 713.230.1716

Deb Wittwer, 7409 Robinson Way, Arvada, CO 80003, 303.424.5114



2008 DFO Memberships

It's hard to believe but DFO 2008 membership renewals are due in the next couple of months. If you want to get a jump start before the chaos of the holiday, copy the membership blank on page 11 and mail it in.

There will be a separate membership form inserted in the November issue.

Field Trip SummaryTable, August 2007

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS										TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	4	4	5	11	12	18	19	25	26		7	14	21	28	
	WHE	CHE	ROX	BEL	RED	LON	GOL	BAR	NOR		FLY	EVE	SED	GOL	
Pied-billed Grebe		1				35			1						37
Western Grebe		4				320									324
Clark's Grebe						20									20
American White Pelican		30		2		12		6	68						118
Double-crested Cormorant	64	10		1		9		10	1			17			112
American Bittern									3						3
Great Blue Heron	2	7		2			1	5	15	1	1				34
Snowy Egret	2	5		3					4						14
Black-crowned Night-Heron	2			2				1	2						7
Turkey Vulture	1	1					2					2	3		9
Greater White-fronted Goose				1											1
Canada Goose	55	6		13		50			22			13			159
Wood Duck				7				12	1						20
Gadwall	6			1											7
American Wigeon	2														2
Mallard	16	24		46		60		4				12			162
Blue-winged Teal						1			60						61
Duck sp										5					5
Northern Shoveler						1			5						6
Northern Pintail									4						4
Green-winged Teal									6						6
Redhead						1			3						4
Ring-necked Duck									4						4
Lesser Scaup															0
Common Goldeneye						1									1
Ruddy Duck						1									1
Osprey						1									1
Bald Eagle								1	1						2
Northern Harrier						1			4						5
Sharp-shinned Hawk							3								3
Cooper's Hawk													1		1
accipiter sp.									1						1
Swainson's Hawk		4		2		1		1	5				3		16
Red-tailed Hawk	1	2	2			2	2		3				3	1	16
Ferruginous Hawk									1						1
Rough-legged Hawk															0
American Kestrel	1	1		1			1		5			1	1		11
Peregrine Falcon									1						1
Wild Turkey													8		8
Northern Bobwhite									1						1
Virginia Rail									1						1
Sora		2													2
American Coot						64			4						68
Semipalmated Plover									3						3
Killdeer		12		1		6		5	86						110
American Avocet									2						2
Greater Yellowlegs									3						3
Lesser Yellowlegs									13						13
Solitary Sandpiper		2							6						8

Field Trip Summary Table August 2007, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS										TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	4	4	5	11	12	18	19	25	26		7	14	21	28	
	WHE	CHE	ROX	BEL	RED	LON	GOL	BAR	NOR		FLY	EVE	SED	GOL	
Spotted Sandpiper		2							4					1	7
Marbled Godwit									1						1
Sanderling									1						1
Semipalmated Sandpiper									1						1
Least Sandpiper									12						12
Baird's Sandpiper									124						124
Pectoral Sandpiper									1						1
Stilt Sandpiper									12						12
Long-billed Dowitcher									2						2
Wilson's Snipe									2						2
Wilson's Phalarope									1						1
Red-necked Phalarope															0
Franklin's Gull									230						230
Ring-billed Gull	27	15		2		10			140						194
California Gull		3							2						5
Ivory Gull															0
Common Tern									1						1
Forster's Tern								9	1						10
Black Tern									18						18
Rock Pigeon	12			38	25	2			4						81
Band-tailed Pigeon													8		8
Eurasian Collared-dove						1			2						3
Mourning Dove	35	12		18	12	9	30	21	325			3	8		473
Yellow-billed Cuckoo									1						1
Great Horned Owl								3	2						5
Burrowing Owl		2													2
Common Nighthawk									2						2
White-throated Swift			6												6
Broad-tailed Hummingbird		1	5		7	5	10				6	7	22	3	66
Rufous Hummingbird							1				1	1	3		6
Belted Kingfisher	1	1		1					1						4
Red-headed Woodpecker									1						1
Red-naped Sapsucker											1			5	6
Downy Woodpecker "eastern" race	1	1	1	1 (1)	1	1		7	2					3	18 (1)
Hairy Woodpecker									1		1	2	2	1	7
Northern Flicker "Red-shafted" race	3	3		8 (8)	2			1 (1)	3		6	2	2	1	31 (17)
Olive-sided Flycatcher									4						4
Western Wood-Pewee		3					30	2	23		2			3	63
Willow Flycatcher									3						3
Dusky Flycatcher									1						1
Cordilleran Flycatcher												1			1

Field Trip Table, August 2007 continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS										TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	4	4	5	11	12	18	19	25	26		7	14	21	28	
	WHE	CHE	ROX	BEL	RED	LON	GOL	BAR	NOR		FLY	EVE	SED	GOL	
Empidonax sp.									2						2
Say's Phoebe		1	1				1		1						4
Western Kingbird	1	10				4		4	38						57
Eastern Kingbird		6				3		1	16						26
Loggerhead Shrike									1						1
Plumbeous Vireo	1						2		2				1		6
Cassin's Vireo									4						4
Warbling Vireo							2		4			1			7
Steller's Jay							8				3	2	2	5	20
Blue Jay	5								3						8
Western Scrub-Jay			10		7		10								27
Clark's Nutcracker												1			1
Black-billed Magpie	2	3	4	1			15				2	1	1		29
American Crow	1	1		2	3		10				11	6	1		35
Common Raven					3		15				1	2		2	23
Horned Lark		3				1			5						9
Tree Swallow	3										2				5
Violet-green Swallow	4		2				50				12	1			69
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	5			5											10
Bank Swallow									6						6
Cliff Swallow		5	15	5		2			1						28
Barn Swallow	7	5		14		70	20	6	80		1	4	4		211
Black-capped Chickadee	12	6	8	2	1		8					1	3	3	44
Mountain Chickadee			2				10				4	14	4	6	40
Red-breasted Nuthatch			2					8	5		1		1	2	19
White-breasted Nuthatch			5	1	1		3	3			3	7	4	1	28
Pygmy Nuthatch							5				6	3	26	12	52
Brown Creeper												3			3
Rock Wren					3		5								8
Canyon Wren					4										4
House Wren		3			2			3	19				5		32
Marsh Wren						1									1
American Dipper	1														1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet									1						1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			10		2				1						13
Western Bluebird											6	21			27
Mountain Bluebird							58				15	14	5	6	98
Townsend's Solitaire														1	1
Hermit Thrush													1		1
American Robin	4			2	7	4	10		10		1		1	1	40
Gray Catbird													4		4
Northern Mockingbird						1									1
European Starling	12	6		4		6	1	16	30				3		78
Cedar Waxwing	5						5								10
Orange-crowned Warbler									2						2
Virginia's Warbler							2								2
Yellow Warbler	6	3					3	3	5						20
Yellow-rumped Warbler											6		3	5	14
Townsend's Warbler									6					5	11
Yellow-throated Warbler									1						1
American Redstart									7						7
Ovenbird			1												1
Northern Waterthrush									1						1
MacGillivray's Warbler							1						2	2	5

Field Trip Table, August 2007 continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS									TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	4	4	5	11	12	18	19	25	26	7	14	21	28	
	WHE	CHE	ROX	BEL	RED	LON	GOL	BAR	NOR	FLY	EVE	SED	GOL	
Common Yellowthroat									1					1
Wilson's Warbler						1			31				4	36
Yellow-breasted Chat		1			2									3
Western Tanager							1					1		2
Green-tailed Towhee							2							2
Spotted Towhee			20		7		4							31
Chipping Sparrow		2			7		100	5	38	36	9	1	9	207
Clay-colored Sparrow									1					1
Brewer's Sparrow				1					1					2
Vesper Sparrow							5		1					6
Lark Sparrow	10	10	1				10		4					35
Lark Bunting		2							4					6
Fox Sparrow														0
Song Sparrow	1	2					8			1	1			13
Dark-eyed Junco							3			8		1	1	13
"Pink-sided" race							3							(3)
"Gray-headed" race										8		(1)		(9)
Black-headed Grosbeak			5		13									18
Lazuli Bunting							1		1					2
Red-winged Blackbird	5	10		1		4	5	12	75		1			113
Western Meadowlark							10		1					11
Yellow-headed Blackbird						30			15					45
Brewer's Blackbird		2							4					6
Common Grackle	5	3		9		4			4					25
Brown-headed Cowbird	1					1				1				3
House Finch	26	10		18	5	11	50				10	6		136
Pine Siskin							5		2	5	1	30	9	52
Lesser Goldfinch	3		6		2		100			2	2	6		121
"Green-backed" race											2			(2)
"Black-backed" race										2				(2)
American Goldfinch	20	30	2	1			3	7	4					67
House Sparrow	7			3		2		6	2		1			21
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	378	278	108	219	118	759	631	162	1707	150	168	180	92	4,948
TOTAL SPECIES	41	47	20	34	21	40	46	27	106	29	34	36	25	164

OBSERVATION LEGEND:

a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
 c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare, unusual, + =also/in addition to,
 x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated

Additional Reports August 2007

species	date	nr seen	location	county	observers
Heron, Green-backed	8/18	1	Walden Ponds	Boulder	Bob Spencer et al.
					Joey Kellner, Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Glenn Walbek, Loch Kilpatrick, Steve Larson, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler
Plover, piping	8/5	1	Jumbo Reservoir	Logan, Sedgewick	
		2, male	Ouzal Falls trail,		
Woodpecker, three-toed	8/2	feeding juv.	Wild Basin	Larimer	Allen Hagood, Polleke Siraa
		2, male	Bottle Peak trail,		
Woodpecker, three-toed	8/22	feeding juv.	Fraser Exp. Forest	Grand	Allen Hagood, Polleke Siraa

Sightings for Additional Reports should be sent to Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net

Bird Watchers Look for Changes Linked to Climate

Contact: David Bonter
Project leader
(607) 254-2457
dnb23@cornell.edu

If you feed birds, scientists need your help

Ithaca, NY- If you've ever watched birds at a feeder, you've seen change-varying numbers of different birds through the seasons and the years. Do some of the long-term shifts reflect changes in the environment, including global climate change? The Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Project FeederWatch is seeking help from bird watchers to help answer that question.

FeederWatchers count the birds at their feeders each week and send the information to the Lab of Ornithology. They've helped document unusual bird sightings, winter movements, and shifting ranges of some bird species over the past 20 years. To see the effects of global climate change, scientists say they need new and veteran participants alike to keep counting birds now and well into the future.

"Being a FeederWatcher is easy and fun, and at the same helps generate the world's largest database on feeder-bird populations," says project leader David Bonter. "Since we started in 1987, nearly 40,000 people have submitted observations, adding up to well over 1.5 million checklists."

Some of the most dramatic changes revealed by data collected during two decades of Project FeederWatch may be related to changes in climate. "We're seeing hummingbirds turning up much farther north than usual during the winter," says Bonter. "Warblers and other insect-eaters are also lingering longer into the northern winter, possibly because of warmer temperatures. Bird count data gathered in the coming years will really help us focus on these trends and what might be causing them."

Recent mild winter conditions may be contributing to the northward range movements of several nonmigratory species. The Carolina Wren, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal, and Tufted Titmouse have all expanded their ranges several hundred miles to the north in recent decades. Some migratory hawks are also remaining farther north in winter. Reports of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks have increased across the northern tier of the continent in recent years.

Project FeederWatch data also show drastic declines in Evening Grosbeaks across the continent. While grosbeak populations are declining, other species are booming. FeederWatchers in the southeastern United States reported record high numbers of Yellow-rumped and Pine warblers. Reports of woodpeckers of all kinds are increasing across the northeastern quadrant of the continent. Northern Flickers and Anna's Hummingbirds are climbing up the list of the top 25 most-reported birds in the Pacific Northwest. Twenty years ago they didn't make the list at all.

The 21st season of Project FeederWatch gets underway November 10 and runs through April 4. All ages and skill levels are welcome. To learn more about Project FeederWatch or to register, visit www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw or call the Lab toll-free at (800) 843-2473. In return for the \$15 fee (\$12 for Lab members) participants receive the *FeederWatcher's Handbook*, an identification poster of the most common feeder birds in their area, a calendar, complete instructions, and the FeederWatch annual report, *Winter Bird Highlights*.

The Denver Field Ornithologists' Organization

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Joyce Takamine, Dick Kolbe, Dick Schottler.

The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email).

Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year.

Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. The meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month except May, June, July and December. Dates and topics of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, www.dfobirders.org and in this newsletter. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are open to the public without charge.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2008 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a ☐ **New Membership** or a ☐ **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting) \$20.00

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting) \$25.00

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger) \$5

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert \$____

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund \$____

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name:

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



Denver Field Ornithologists

The Lark Bunting

November 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 11

The Most Excellent Birds in the World

Monday, October 22, (not the 29th) at 7.30 pm

Ted Floyd, Editor of *Birding* magazine and popular speaker on birds and birding.

Besides being the Editor of *Birding* magazine, Ted Floyd has been and will once again be one of DFO's favorite speakers. Ted will reveal to us the ten most excellent birds in the world. The list may surprise you.

Birding in Sri Lanka: November 26 DFO Meeting

John Drummond, a well-listed (nearly 6,500 species) world birder, will present his birding experiences and photographs from Sri Lanka at the DFO meeting on November 26, 2007 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Though some indicate that Sri Lanka can a place which is now difficult for the American traveler, John will convince you that the county is an interesting and accessible location for the committed bird watcher. He will share his experiences of looking for the Red-faced Malkoha, Sri Lanka Blue Magpie, and White-faced Starling in the Sinharaja Rainforest (a UNESCO World Heritage Site). The joy of finding Pied Hornbill, Little Green Bea-Eater and several other interesting species at the Udawalawe National Park will also be shared. Besides seeing a leopard, elephants and Spotted Deer at Yala National Park and Bundala National Park, John will share his experiences of finding a number of bird species (including the Great Thick Knee) at these beautiful national parks. Photos and adventure will also be shared from the group's experiences at the Horton and Plains National Park where they found Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush, Yellow-eared Bulbul, and Dull Blue Flycatcher. Besides sharing the story of finding the Chestnut-backed Owlet at Kilani Valley Forest Reserve, John will cover information about several other birding hot spots in Sri Lanka and share a number of other photos of endemic and near-endemic species from his travels.

John Drummond has birded in 25 countries, covering 6 continents. John has been a leader, co-leader or has advanced a number of international trips covering Jamaica, Japan, Australia and Thailand. His birding plans in the next year include Venezuela and being co-leader on trips to Bolivia and South Africa. John has Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Southampton University, England and has extensive field experience on a number of bird studies and has spoken to a number of Audubon and other ornithological groups.

The Denver Field Ornithologists monthly meetings are now held on the **4th Monday of each month** August to April (excluding December). Upcoming Speakers and Dates include Norm Erthal on birding in Australia (January 28), Martin Lockley on Prehistoric Birds (February 26). Dates remain the same, though speakers are subject to change for 2008 dates. All DFO meetings are interesting and the company of bird watchers is always worthwhile. **DOORS OPEN BY 7:00 AM AND ARE LOCKED AT 7:30 PM.** Thus, mark your calendar for each meeting and plan to come by 7:15 PM on these dates. Meetings are held at the Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, you can enter through security/volunteer door, but this does create problems for our hosts at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

November 2007 Field Trips



Saturday, November 3 *Barr Lake State Park*

Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644. Meet leader at the Nature Center at 0800. Half day trip, lunch optional. State Parks Pass required. This will be an easy, wheelchair accessible hike. From Denver, take East I-76 to Bromley Lane, Exit 22. Go east on Bromley Lane to Piccadilly Road, and then turn south for approximately 2 miles to park entrance. This trip is especially good for the novice birder and new members.

Sunday, November 4 *Scoter Trip*

Leader: Joey Kellner, 303-978-1748. This is an all day trip driving to various mountain lakes to look for scoters, loons and other migrants, so bring lunch. Trip will probably include stops at Dillon Reservoir, Turquoise Lake, Spinney Mountain Reservoir, Twin Lakes and Eleven-Mile Reservoir. Call leader to register and arrange a meeting place. State Parks pass required.

Saturday, November 10 *Pueblo*

Leaders: Ira and Tammy Saunders, 303-278-7172. Meet leaders at 0630 at the Safeway on Lincoln just West of I-25. Bring lunch, extra drinking water and come prepared for extremes of weather. State Parks pass needed.

Sunday, November 11 *Castlewood Canyon State Park and Kingerys' bird feeders*

Leaders: Hugh and Urling Kingery, 303-814-2723. Meet leaders at 0800 on the side of the road at Colo. 86 & Castlewood Canyon Road (Douglas Co. road 51); just west of Cherry Creek; DO NOT go to Park headquarters, 5 miles south of Franktown on Colo. 83. DO NOT go into the park on Castlewood Canyon Road. The intersection is: (a) 1/2 mile west of traffic light in Franktown; and (b) 10 miles east of I-25, Exit 184

For (a): Take Parker Road/Colo. 83 to Franktown (about 10 miles south of Parker); right at traffic light. Left on Castlewood Canyon Road (just after you cross Cherry Creek).

For (b): Turn left at Exit 184 on Founders Parkway (now Colo. 86) and go 4 miles to traffic light. Left 4.5 miles to Castlewood Canyon Road; right on Castlewood Canyon Road. The Park portion will involve a two mile walk or so, depending on the birds and the group. We may hike instead a Douglas County Open Space unit along Russelville Creek. Bring lunch and your state parks pass. This trip is especially good for the novice birder and new members.

Saturday, November 17 *Lakes Along the Foothills*

Leader: Alison Kondler, 303-904-9140. Meet leader at 0830 in the parking lot near the Conoco Gas Station at Morrison and C-470. This will be a half day trip so lunch is optional. Will check out the waterfowl and hawks at the lakes from Bear Creek to Waterton Canyon.

Sunday, November 18 *Roxborough State Park*

Leader: Doris Cruze, 303-798-8072. Meet leader at the Visitor Center at 0800. This trip should see the resident golden eagles, scrub jays and possibly a canyon wren or two. Mammals are also possible, elk, deer and possibly more. State Parks Pass required or daily Parks Pass per car. Lunch is optional but there is a great place to enjoy your lunch after the hike. Take S. Wadsworth Blvd. past Chatfield S.P. to Waterton Rd on left. Take Waterton Rd. 1.6 miles east to North Rampart Range Rd., turn right and go south 2.3 miles to Roxborough Park Rd. Turn left and follow signs to the park (2.2 miles.)

Friday, November 23 *Platte River Greenway*

Leader: Jackie King, 303-287-1644. Meet leader at 8:30 at E. 88th and the South Platte River - From I-76 take E. 88th Ave. exit, go west on 88th for 1.6 miles then turn south at Colorado Blvd. Turn left again into the parking lot for the South Platte River Greenway Trailhead. Explore along the river on the bike path which is paved and level. Bring lunch and drinking water.

November 2007 Field Trips, continued

Saturday, November 24

Chatfield State Park

Leader: Dick Schottler, 303-278-8035. Meet leader at 0800 at the Swim Beach Parking Lot inside west entrance of park off S. Wadsworth, 1 ½ miles south of C-470. State Parks Pass required. This may be a three quarter day trip depending on birds and weather, so bring lunch and drinking water.

Sunday, November 25

Belmar Historic Park

Leader: Karleen Schofield, 303-936-8661. Meet leader at 0900 at 800 South Wadsworth Blvd. at W. Ohio Ave. Turn west on Ohio Ave, and go 2 blocks straight ahead into Irongate parking lot and to lake. This will be a half day trip ending at 1200.

Scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook

Field Trip Summaries for Fall Count 2007

September 8, Saturday

Bear Creek State Park and Greenbelt, Marston Lake (BCP)

Leader(s): Mike Henwood. **Observers:** Rick Creswell, Doris Cruze, Bev DuGay, Patty Echelmeyer, Jean Frazier, Tim Smart, Karen Von Saltza, Sherman Wing, Tina Jones (yard birds). **Time:** 0700-1630. **Distance:** 8 miles by car, 5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, shoreline, mud flats, marsh, riparian, low elevation shrub, shortgrass prairie, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Sunny, warm, clear, 60-78°F, easterly wind, light, moderate breeze. **Totals:** 82 species, 2145 individuals.

September 8, Saturday

Waterton (WAT)

Leader(s): Hugh Kingery. **Observers:** Urling Kingery, Mike Serruto. **Time:** 0630-1400. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, grasslands, wetlands, elevation 5400'. **Weather:** Clear, sunny, 60-86°F, no wind. **Totals:** 70 species, 824 individuals.

September 8, Saturday

Cherry Creek Reservoir (CHE)

Leader(s): Bob Brown. **Observers:** Joseph Bump, Pauline Ide. **Time:** 0700-1230. **Distance:** 13.5 miles by car, 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Mixed riparian, open water, elevation 5570'. **Weather:** Clear, 53-82°F, calm. **Totals:** 54 species, 747 individuals.

September 8, Saturday

Chatfield State Park (CHA)

Leader(s): Joey Kellner. **Observers:** Jill Holden, Ed Holub, Barbara Isaac, Alison Kondler, Charlie Lawrence, Randy Lenz, Polleke Siraa, Steve Stachowiak, Chuck Walters. **Time:** 0630-1900. **Distance:** 30 miles by car, 7 miles on foot. **Weather:** Clear becoming partly cloudy by mid-day, 48-80°F, north wind, 0-19mph. **Totals:** 92 species, 1345 individuals.

September 8, Saturday

Barr Lake Periphery (BLP)

Leader(s): Jackie King. **Observers:** Dave O'Reilly. **Time:** 0700-1400. **Distance:** 100 miles by car. **Habitat:** Plains and riparian, elevation 5280'. **Weather:** Sunny and warm, 68-84°F, northwest wind, 5-8 mph. **Totals:** 54 species, 2410 individuals.

September 8, Saturday

Barr Lake State Park (BAR)

Leader(s): Dick Schottler. **Observers:** Warren Finch, Dick Pratt. **Time:** 0630-1540. **Distance:** 8 miles by car, 5 miles on foot. **Weather:** Clear, 58-84°F, northeastern wind, 0-20 mph. **Totals:** 70 species, 1539 individuals.

September 9, Sunday

Castlewood Canyon State Park (CAS)

Leader(s): Randy Lentz. **Observers:** Bev DuGay, Tom Halverstadt. **Time:** 0600-1700. **Distance:** 18 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Foothills and grassland, scrub oak, douglas fir, pine, riparian, lake, elevation 6300'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny morning, cloudy with afternoon shower, 45-75°F, south wind, 5-15 mph. **Totals:** 70 species, 605 individuals.

September 9, Sunday

Rocky Mountain Arsenal (ROC)

Leader(s): Urling Kingery. **Observers:** John Breitsch, Joseph Bump, Bill Eden, Christy Honnen, Pauline Ide, Hugh Kingery, Dan Lawson, Pamela Tarrall, Karen von Saltza. **Time:** 0600-1530. **Distance:** 35 miles by car, 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, grasslands, wetlands, elevation 5300'. **Weather:** Clear, sunny, 50-65°F, no wind. **Totals:** 80 species, 1667 individuals.

Fall Count Summary Table

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	2007 Fall Count Trips								TOTAL
	BCP	WAT	CHE	CHA	BLP	BAR	CAS	ROC	
	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	
Pied-billed Grebe	8		1	3	7	2		24	45
Eared Grebe			7						7
Western Grebe	1					36			37
American White Pelican	48		66	23	42	58		28	265
Double-crested Cormorant	98	4	9	71	22	45	5	18	272
Great Blue Heron	23	6	24	11	4	13		6	87
Great Egret			1						1
Snowy Egret	5		25		1	2		7	40
Black-crowned Night-Heron	1		7	2					10
White-faced Ibis								3	3
Turkey Vulture	4			1			35		40
Canada Goose		26	50	56	265	320	3	53	773
Wood Duck	3	1		8					12
Gadwall	130	1				3		58	192
American Wigeon	58					8		4	70
Mallard	54	7	36	13	129	45	15	70	369
Blue-winged Teal	35			2		30	6		73
Cinnamon Teal								1	1
Teal sp.		2						4	6
Northern Shoveler	39		4		1	6	5	25	80
Northern Pintail						4		2	6
Green-winged Teal	43		5	2	42	8	4	81	185
Redhead	70						1	10	81
Ring-necked Duck	1							2	3
Lesser Scaup	1								1
Hooded Merganser	42			1					43
Common Merganser	8			20					28
Ruddy Duck	3					4			7
Osprey				1					1
Northern Harrier		1		2			1	2	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1	1			1	3
Cooper's Hawk	2		1	1	1		1	1	7
Swainson's Hawk	9	2		1	12	5	5	4	38
Red-tailed Hawk	3	2	1	5	6	2	3	13	35
Rough-legged Hawk									0
Golden Eagle		2					2		4
American Kestrel	5	3		3	9	3	4	14	41
Peregrine Falcon				1					1
Prairie Falcon	1							1	2
Ring-necked Pheasant					1	1			2

Fall Count Summary Table , continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	2007 Fall Count Trips								TOTAL
	BCP	WAT	CHE	CHA	BLP	BAR	CAS	ROC	
	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	
Wild Turkey							6		6
Virginia Rail	1	2	1	6				1	11
Sora			3	1				1	5
American Coot	510		31		75	97		47	760
Killdeer	40	1	18	23	49	36	3	72	242
Greater Yellowlegs					10		2	1	13
Lesser Yellowlegs						1		5	6
Solitary Sandpiper				9		2			11
Spotted Sandpiper	12	1		2		1	1	2	19
Sanderling	3								3
Semipalmated Sandpiper					5				5
Least Sandpiper	1						5		6
Baird's Sandpiper	18						1		19
Long-billed Dowitcher									0
Wilson's Snipe		1		1					2
Red-necked Phalarope									0
Franklin's Gull						16			16
Ring-billed Gull	342		150	68	125	180	5	6	876
California Gull	29		23	18	10	1			81
Sabine's Gull				1					1
Ivory Gull									0
Black Tern							15		15
Rock Pigeon	27	1			133	2		66	229
Eurasian Collared dove					14	1			15
Mourning Dove	10	81	1	47	173	130	10	406	850
Great Horned Owl	1			2		2	3	2	10
Burrowing Owl					3			4	7
Common Nighthawk				1					1
Black-chinned Hummingbird				2					2
Calliope Hummingbird	2								2
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	3	11	1	4	1		2		22
Rufous Hummingbird	3								3
Belted Kingfisher		8	1	5		3	1	2	20
Williamson's Sapsucker							1		1
Red-naped Sapsucker					1				1
Downy Woodpecker	2	9	4	6	2	5	2	8	38
Hairy Woodpecker							1		1
"Rocky Mountain" race							1		(1)
Northern Flicker	20	20	9	4	3	4	3	39	102
"Red-shafted" race	(20)	(20)	(9)	(4)		(4)	(3)	(39)	(99)

Fall Count Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	2007 Fall Count Trips								TOTAL
	BCP	WAT	CHE	CHA	BLP	BAR	CAS	ROC	
	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	
Olive-sided Flycatcher	2						2		4
Western Wood-Pewee	8	7	1	11		5	2	15	49
Willow Flycatcher						1			1
Hammond's Flycatcher				1					1
Gray Flycatcher				1					1
Cordilleran Flycatcher		1					1	1	3
Buff-breasted Flycatcher									0
empidonax sp.		1			1	3		1	6
Say's Phoebe	3	2		3			1	2	11
Western Kingbird	4	7	1	11	7	5	2	66	103
Eastern Kingbird				2		1		3	6
Loggerhead Shrike					1			3	4
Plumbeous Vireo		1					3		4
Cassin's Vireo			1					2	3
Warbling Vireo			1	1	1		2		5
Steller's Jay							9		9
Blue Jay	3	1	1	3				6	14
Western Scrub-Jay		1					11		12
Black-billed Magpie	27		22	21	4	3	32	2	111
American Crow	19	23	3	1	35		15	19	115
Common Raven	2						9		11
Horned Lark				2	62				64
Tree Swallow		2						2	4
Violet-green Swallow		1		4			20		25
Bank Swallow				1		1			2
Cliff Swallow	6			3					9
Barn Swallow	23	116	43	120	130	125	10	36	603
Black-capped Chickadee	14	40	18	14		4	10	9	109
Mountain Chickadee							9		9
Bush tit	4								4
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1				1	1	9	1	13
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	8	1	5		3	11	2	31
Pygmy Nuthatch							9		9
Rock Wren	7	4	1	7		6		8	33
House Wren	5	14	2	15		2	5	9	52
Marsh Wren			1						1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet								2	2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		6		8		1	4	2	21
Western Bluebird							24		24
Mountain Bluebird							55		55
Townsend's Solitaire				1					1
American Robin	25	109	2	7	4	32	29	10	218
Gray Catbird	1	7	1	8			3		20
Sage Thrasher				3	1				4
Brown Thrasher								2	2
European Starling	17	16	49	400	375	45		62	964
Cedar Waxwing	6	2		11			16		35
Orange-crowned Warbler		5	1			1		1	8
Nashville Warbler				1					1

SPECIES	2007 Fall Count Trips								TOTAL
	BCP	WAT	CHE	CHA	BLP	BAR	CAS	ROC	
DATE	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	
LOCATION	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	
Virginia's Warbler	1	1							2
Northern Parula		1							1
Yellow Warbler	3		3			2		1	9
Black-throated Blue Warbler		1							1
Yellow-rumped Warbler			12	3		1			16
"Audubon's" race			12						(12)
Black-throated Gray Warbler			1						1
Townsend's Warbler		1	5	3		1		1	11
Black-and-white Warbler							1		1
American Redstart				1					1
Common Yellowthroat		3		1		3			7
Wilson's Warbler	14	71	3	27	19	27	6	59	226
Yellow-breasted Chat		2		2					4
Western Tanager	1	1		7		3	7		19
Green-tailed Towhee	2	3		5			3	5	18
Spotted Towhee	2	2		5			15		24
Chipping Sparrow	56	2	17	8		23	26	25	157
Clay-colored Sparrow						1		1	2
Brewer's Sparrow		5	1	8		1	5	1	21
spizella sp.		14						110	124
Vesper Sparrow	2	3		8	20	3	27	15	78
Lark Sparrow	2	4		3	4	1	9	10	33
Lark Bunting					3				3
Savannah Sparrow				20	30				50
Fox Sparrow									0
Song Sparrow	9	1		8	3	1		1	23
Lincoln's Sparrow		2		1		1			4
White-crowned Sparrow	2	2		1					5
Dark-eyed Junco									0
Black-headed Grosbeak							1		1
Lazuli Bunting		1							1
Red-winged Blackbird	4	12	9	18	250	110		2	405
Western Meadowlark	7	2		4	75	3		26	117
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1			3	12				16
Brewer's Blackbird		4	2	30					36
Common Grackle	60		2	15	12	2			91
House Finch	64	59	40	13	14	2	5	37	234
Pine Siskin		4		2			12	2	20
Lesser Goldfinch	10	42		31			11	1	95
"Black-backed" race	4								(4)
American Goldfinch	4	15	24	24	14	31	23	10	145
Evening Grosbeak				1					1
House Sparrow	4				185	8			197
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	2145	824	747	1345	2410	1539	605	1667	11,282
TOTAL SPECIES	82	70	54	92	54	70	70	80	158

OBSERVATION LEGEND:
a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only,
c=calling, s=singing, boldface=rare, unusual, + =also/in addition to,
x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated

Field Trip Summaries, September 2007

September 1, Saturday *Centennial Cone, Jeffco Open Space (CEN)*

Leader(s): Paul Slingsby. **Observers:** Tim Smart, Diane Carter, Nina Routh, Pauline Ide, Meredith Anderson, Betsy Shaw, Danny Roohs, Peggy Hankins, Jim Petri, Chris Owens, Norm Lewis, Karen Von Saltza. **Time:** 0700-1500. **Distance:** 40 miles by car, 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, montane grassland and shrubland, ponderosa, elevation 7500'. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, 65-85°F, wind less than 5mph. **Totals:** 54 species, 419 individuals.

September 2, Sunday *Rigli Ranch (RIG)*

Leader(s): Joe Rigli. **Observers:** Meredith Anderson. **Time:** 0830-1330. **Distance:** 6 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Grassland, riparian woodlands, fields, sandhill-sagebrush, elevation 4330'. **Weather:** Clear, sunny, cool, calm in morning, clear, partly cloudy, hot in afternoon, 65-95°F, southeast wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 28 species, 150 individuals.

September 15, Saturday *Lair O'the Bear (LAI)*

Leader(s): Mike Foster. **Observers:** Diane Carter, Bill Eden, Lucille Fenton, Marilyn Fowler, Leslie Gerard, Peggy Gonder, Mary Katz, Marcia Millikan, Geri O'Hara, Karen von Saltza. **Time:** 0800-1130. **Distance:** 3.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lowland riparian, mountain grassland and shrubs, ponderosa pine forest. **Weather:** Clear, moderate, dry, 60s°F. **Totals:** 22 species, 85 individuals.

September 16, Sunday *Barr Lake State Park (BAR)*

Leader(s): Toni Rautus. **Observers:** Lyn Graves, Pauline Ide, Tim Smart. **Time:** 0700-1330. **Distance:** 3 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, riparian, field. **Weather:** Sunny, 85°F, calm. **Totals:** 60 species, 1397 individuals.

September 22, Saturday *Crow Valley and Eastern Migrant Traps (CRO)*

Leader(s): Allison Hilf. **Observers:** Warren Finch, Ed Holu, Tim Smart, Joyce Takamine, Connie Takamine. **Time:** 0530-1430. **Distance:** 400 miles by car. .5 mile on foot. **Totals:** 71 species, 8402 individuals.

September 23, Sunday *Longmont Area (LON)*

Leader(s): Chris Owens. **Observers:** Pauline Ide, Chuck Lowrie, Dick Pratt, Betsy Rumley, Betsy Shaw. **Time:** 0800-1330. **Distance:** 35 miles by car. **Habitat:** Ponds, riparian area, agricultural, park, elevation 5000'. **Weather:** Overcast, 65°F, calm. **Totals:** 56 species, 5520 individuals.

September 29, Saturday *Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR (ROC)*

Leader(s): Lynn Willcockson. **Observers:** Debra Bogar, Gail Evans, Kris Koff, Sigurd Nelson, Jim Petri, Betsy Shaw, Tim Smart, Joyce Takamine, Karen von Saltza. **Time:** 0800-1215. **Distance:** 11 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Shortgrass, prairie, lakes and deciduous woodland, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, 65-80°F, southwest wind, 10-25mph. **Totals:** 56 species, 1234 individuals.

September 30, Sunday *Prewitt Reservoir and Eastern Plains (PRE)*, Report not available at time of printing.

Tuesday Birders

September 4 *Mount Falcon Jeffco Open Space Park (MOU)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 31 (two groups). **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Foothills scrub, ponderosa pine, juniper and open meadows, elevation 7750-7859'. **Weather:** Clear to partly cloudy, 58-70°F. **Totals:** 28 species, 179 individuals.

September 11 *Upper White Ranch Jeffco Open Space Park (UPP)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell, Else Van Erp and Barbara Isaac. **Observers:** 37 (three groups). **Time:** 0830-1230. **Distance:** 5.9 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponderosa pine, woodlands and mixed grassy meadows, elevation 5675'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 57-66°F, west wind, 5-7 mph. **Totals:** 36 species, 235 individuals.

September 18 *Barr Lake State Park (BAR)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 30. **Time:** 0900-1300. **Distance:** 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, prairie, reservoir, riparian, cottonwood, willow, cattails, agriculture, elevation 5100-5300'. **Weather:** Sunny, calm, 62-78°F, southeast wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 42(2 banded) species, 565(6 banded) individuals.

September 25 *Pine Valley Ranch Jeffco Open Space Park (PIN)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 56 (two groups). **Time:** 0900-1300. **Distance:** 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Reservoir with lake, ponderosa pine, blue spruce, douglas fir and grassy meadows, elevation 7200'. **Weather:** Sunny, calm, 52-64°F, northwest wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 27 species, 148 individuals.

September Field Trip Summary Table

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	1	2	15	16	22	23	29	30	4	11	18	25	
	CEN	RIG	LAI	BAR	CRO	LON	ROC	PRE	MOU	UPP	BAR	PIN	
Pied-billed Grebe				12		24	8						44
Western Grebe				82		3500							3582
American White Pelican				80	40	55	2				12		189
Double-crested Cormorant	3			38		2	6				14		63
Great Blue Heron				19	8	6	4				5		42
Great Egret					3	5							8
Snowy Egret				1	2		7				1		11
Green Heron				1									1
Black-crowned Night-Heron					3		1						4
Turkey Vulture						12			2				14
Canada Goose	12			96	20	40	13				53		234
Wood Duck				2									2
Gadwall						31	48						79
American Wigeon						65	156						221
Mallard				34	6	60	84				11		195
Blue-winged Teal				46	4	8						8	66
Northern Shoveler				18	6	4	24						52
Northern Pintail							48						48
Green-winged Teal					4	2	96						102
Redhead				23	15	8	28						74
Ring-necked Duck						14	11						25
Lesser Scaup							2						2
Ruddy Duck				20		25	6						51
Osprey						2						1	3
Bald Eagle				1		1							2
Northern Harrier		1		1	6	1	1				1		11
Cooper's Hawk	1									1	1		3
Northern Goshawk									1				1
Broad-winged Hawk					2								2
Swainson's Hawk	2	2		1	3	4	1						13
Red-tailed Hawk	2	1	1	1	5	7	4			2		3	26
Ferruginous Hawk					2								2
Rough-legged Hawk													0
Golden Eagle	7									2			9
American Kestrel	1	4	2	1	5		11			1			25
Merlin						1							1
Peregrine Falcon	1			1									2
Prairie Falcon										1			1
Ring-necked Pheasant				4		1							5
Wild Turkey									1				1
American Coot				589	8	625	425				44		1691
American Golden-Plover					1								1

September Field Trip Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	1	2	15	16	22	23	29	30	4	11	18	25	
	CEN	RIG	LAI	BAR	CRO	LON	ROC	PRE	MOU	UPP	BAR	PIN	
Killdeer		1		47	150	10	10				63		281
American Avocet					75								75
Greater Yellowlegs					10		4						14
Lesser Yellowlegs				3	35	4					15		57
Solitary Sandpiper				1									1
Willet											3		3
Spotted Sandpiper				1	10						1		12
Long-billed Curlew					3								3
Sanderling					3								3
Least Sandpiper					5								5
Baird's Sandpiper					550		4				1		555
Pectoral Sandpiper					2								2
Stilt Sandpiper					40								40
Long-billed Dowitcher					30	1							31
Wilson's Snipe		1		2									3
Wilson's Phalarope				1	150		6				2		159
Red-necked Phalarope													0
Franklin's Gull				68	950						250		1268
Ring-billed Gull				42	322	260	36				3		663
California Gull				17							1		18
Herring Gull				1	1	1							3
Sabine's Gull				1									1
Ivory Gull													0
Tern sp					4								4
Forster's Tern					1						1		2
Black Tern				1	5						2		8
Rock Pigeon	64			8	10	1	26						109
Eurasian Collared-dove					7	50							57
Mourning Dove	9	40		26	30	6	21				8		140
Great Horned Owl		1				1	1						3
Burrowing Owl		4											4
Short-eared Owl							1						1
Common Nighthawk		3											3
Common Poorwill				1			1						2
White-throated Swift	6												6
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	15		1						2				18
Rufous Hummingbird	1												1
hummingbird sp.										1			1
Belted Kingfisher			1	6		2							9
Red-naped Sapsucker							2						2
Downy Woodpecker			2	5	2		1		3	2	3	3	21
Hairy Woodpecker	6		1				1		4				12
Northern Flicker	7			6	10	2	11		1	7	4	5	53
"Red-shafted" race	(7)										4	5	(16)

September Field Trip Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS				TOTAL
	1	2	15	16	22	23	29	30	4	11	18	25	
	CEN	RIG	LAI	BAR	CRO	LON	ROC	PRE	MOU	UPP	BAR	PIN	
Western Wood-Pewee	3	3			2				1		1		10
Willow Flycatcher				2									2
Dusky Flycatcher					1						1		2
Buff-breasted Flycatcher													0
empidonax sp.	1										1		2
Eastern Phoebe				1									1
Say's Phoebe		2								8			10
Cassin's Kingbird					1					2			3
Western Kingbird		5								2			7
Eastern Kingbird		1								2			3
Plumbeous Vireo					1				1	1			3
Warbling Vireo	5												5
Steller's Jay	10		3						8	12		6	39
Blue Jay					6	1	4				1		12
Western Scrub-Jay	1					1							2
Clark's Nutcracker									4	1			5
Black-billed Magpie	5	4	2	2			7		4	4			28
American Crow	1		1				1		3	12			18
Common Raven	2		1			1			1	1		1	7
Horned Lark		15			255								270
Violet-green Swallow	3												3
Barn Swallow	1	6			10	170							187
swallow sp.										3			3
Black-capped Chickadee	6		5	6			2		1	9	1	7	37
Mountain Chickadee	29								27	8		7	71
Bushtit	14												14
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5								7	2	1	1	16
White-breasted Nuthatch	6		2	4	2				25	4	1	13	57
Pygmy Nuthatch	20								57	27		12	116
Brown Creeper	5								1			1	7
Rock Wren		2											2
Canyon Wren	3												3
House Wren	8			1							2	1	12
American Dipper			1									2	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet				3			2						5
Ruby-crowned Kinglet							1				1		2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	13						2						15
Western Bluebird	1								1	41		15	58
Mountain Bluebird	5								5	5			15
Townsend's Solitaire	1		3		12		1		2	1			20
Hermit Thrush					1								1
American Robin	7		15		12	3	13			2		5	57
Gray Catbird												1	1
Sage Thrasher										2			2
Brown Thrasher					2								2
European Starling	10			15	80	220	3				25		353
Cedar Waxwing			1		1								2
Orange-crowned Warbler				1		1					2		4

OBSERVATION LEGEND:	a=adult, i=immature, j=juvenile, y=young, n=nesting, m=male, f=female, h=heard only, c=calling, s=singing, rare =rare, unusual, + =also/in addition to, x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated
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Audubon Advisory

October 12, 2007

Endangered Species Tax Benefits Advance in Senate

On Thursday, October 4, the Senate Finance Committee passed a package of tax legislation that included the Endangered Species Recovery Act, a bill that would provide more than \$400 million in tax incentives each year to private landowners to enter into easement agreements to protect endangered species habitat or to conduct projects that benefit endangered species recovery. The endangered species provisions are considered bipartisan and noncontroversial, and passed through the committee with no opposition. Attention now turns to the House Ways and Means Committee, which must consider the bill soon for it to have a chance for passage this year. Stay tuned for an action alert that will be your opportunity to help this bill move forward to benefit endangered species!

Audubon Board Chair Carol Browner Tells Congress Refuges Deserve Better

Former EPA Administrator and current chair of Audubon's national board Carol Browner testified Tuesday before the Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans Subcommittee in the U.S. House of Representatives. The hearing focused on the successes and failures of the National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act, a Clinton-era law intended to improve oversight and management of refuges. Ms. Browner told the panel that wildlife refuges are "**underappreciated, underfunded, and underprioritized**," and highlighted several deficiencies in implementation of the Improvement Act, particularly regarding failure to adequately expand the Refuge System to protect ecosystems and failure to secure adequate water for wetlands. Other panelists included former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and the US Fish and Wildlife Service's director, Dale Hall.

Welcome New Member!

Sherman Wing, PO Box 690, Indian Hills, CO 80454, 303.697.8840

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

Mary Lederer (RBA), Bob Righter (RBA, EEF)

Thank you!

It's time to renew your membership!

**Please use the form inserted into this
issue of the Lark Bunting**



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Jackie King, 303.287.1644
Feb, May, Aug, Nov
Meredith Anderson 303.280.8576
Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec.

Lark Bunting Editor/Webmaster

303.646.3829
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Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750

Joyce Takamine, Dick Kolbe, Dick Schottler.

The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year.

Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. The meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month except May, June, July and December. Dates and topics of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, www.dfobirders.org and in this newsletter. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are open to the public without charge.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2008 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a ☐ **New Membership** or a ☐ **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting)	\$20.00
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One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting)	\$25.00
--	---------

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger)	\$5
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Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert	\$_____
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With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](http://ColoradoFieldOrnithologists.org)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund	\$_____
--	---------

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address _____

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**



The Lark Bunting

December 2007

www.dfobirders.org

Volume 42, Number 12

Birding in Sri Lanka: November 26 DFO Meeting



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Red Faced Malkoha
Phaenicophaeus pyrhocephalus

John Drummond, a well-listed (nearly 6,500 species) world birder, will present his birding experiences and photographs from Sri Lanka at the DFO meeting on November 26, 2007 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Though some indicate that Sri Lanka can a place which is now difficult for the American traveler, John will convince you that the country is an interesting and accessible location for the committed bird watcher. He will share his experiences of looking for the Red-faced Malkoha, Sri Lanka Blue Magpie, and White-faced Starling in the Sinharaja Rainforest (a UNESCO World Heritage Site). The joy of finding Pied Hornbill, Little Green Bee-Eater and several other interesting species at the Udawalawe National Park will also be shared. Besides seeing a leopard, elephants and Spotted Deer at Yala National Park and Bundala National Park, John will share his experiences of finding a number of bird species (including the Great Thick Knee) at these beautiful national parks.

Photos and adventure will also be shared from the group's experiences at the Horton and Plains National Park where they found Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush, Yellow-eared Bulbul, and Dull Blue Flycatcher. Besides sharing the story of finding the Chestnut-backed Owlet at Kilani Valley Forest Reserve, John will cover information about several other birding hot spots in Sri Lanka and share a number of other photos of endemic and near-endemic species from his travels.

John Drummond has birded in 25 countries, covering 6 continents. John has been a leader, co-leader or has advanced a number of international trips covering Jamaica, Japan, Australia and Thailand. His birding plans in the next year include Venezuela and being co-leader on trips to Bolivia and South Africa. John has Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Southampton University, England and has extensive field experience on a number of bird studies and has spoken to a number of Audubon and other ornithological groups. More information available on our web site www.dfobirders.org

The Denver Field Ornithologists monthly meetings are now held on the **4th Monday of each month** August to April (excluding December). Upcoming Speakers and Dates include Norm Erthal on birding in Australia (January 28), Martin Lockley on Prehistoric Birds (February 26). Dates remain the same, though speakers are subject to change for 2008 dates. All DFO meetings are interesting and the company of bird watchers is always worthwhile. **DOORS OPEN BY 7:00 AM AND ARE LOCKED AT 7:30 PM.** Thus, mark your calendar for each meeting and plan to come by 7:15 PM on these dates. *Meetings are held at the Ricketson Auditorium in Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, you can enter through security/volunteer door, but this does create problems for our hosts at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.*

December 2007 Field Trips



Saturday, December 1 *Platte River at 74th Avenue*

Leader: Paul Slingsby, (303) 422-3728. Look for waterfowl and year-round riparian residents. Meet leader at the parking lot off of I-76 at 74th Ave. (Hwy. 224); call leader to register for trip and get directions. Meeting time is 0900; depending on conditions the trip may extend into mid-afternoon. Lunch optional; dress for weather, bring a scope if you'd like.

Sunday, December 2 *Barr Lake State Park*

Leader: Meredith Anderson, (303) 280-8576. A "slacker" trip! (But the birds don't have to know that.) Meet leader at 0900 at the Visitors' Center for a nice walk along the lake; if the birding's good we may get a bit more ambitious! Plan for at least a half-day; bring lunch and a scope if you have one. State Parks Pass required; consider buying your 2008 pass here.

Saturday, December 8 *South Platte Park*

Leader: Niña Routh, (303) 987-8687. Ducks, ducks, wintertime riparian species, raptors, more ducks, and likely a surprise or two. Meet leader at 0830 at the RTD Park 'n Ride just south of the park and on the same side of the street. Half-day trip; lunch optional, scopes helpful. Adequate footwear essential.

Sunday, December 9 *Cherry Creek State Park*

Leader: Mary Burger, (303) 771-3431. Meet leader at the West entrance: go east from Yosemite on Union Ave. past Cherry Creek HS to the Park entrance. Half-day trip; lunch optional, Parks Pass required.

Saturday, December 15 *Denver Christmas Bird Counts (CBC)* (See next page for details)



Sunday, December 16 *Boulder CBC*

The more the merrier! All participants welcome; call Bill Schmoker at (720) 201-5749 or e-mail him at bill.schmoker@gmail.com to sign on and get all the details.

Friday, December 21 *Bonny Reservoir/Bonny State Park CBC*

This fun group birds its way out to Yuma County on Thursday and stays the night in the Park bunkhouse (Potluck dinner) before the take-no-prisoners bird count on Friday, returning to Denver late in the day. For more information and to sign up contact Glen Walbeck at gwalbeck@comcast.net.

Saturday and Sunday, December 22 and 23 - Christmas weekend, no trips scheduled.

Saturday, December 29 *Golden Gate State Park.*

Leader: Mike Serruto, (303) 377-9870. Winter birding at 8000 feet! Crossbills, Grosbeaks, Juncos, Waxwings, Raptors and more all possible. Metro residents meet at 0800 the west side of the Park 'n Ride at 120th Ave. and Huron Street (SW corner, about 1/2 mile west of I-25, exit 223) for carpooling; another option is to meet at 0845 at the base of Golden Gate Road at Hwy. 93. Half-day trip; bring a lunch, Carpool cars need a State Parks Pass. It's colder up there so dress warmly, in layers.

Sunday, December 30 *Binkley's Grand Lake Feeders*

Leaders: Marilyn & Dave Binkley, 303-250-2381. Meet DFO representative (undetermined at press time) at the north-east Park & Ride (T-Rex Lot) at the hogback at I-70 and Morrison exit (exit 259) at 0700 to carpool. Full day trip. We will look at winter mountain birds up close from a warm house. Bring slippers or warm sox, lunch, and beverages. Also bring warm outdoor clothes if you want to take the optional outdoor walk. Target birds: Pine Grosbeak, Pygmy Nuthatch, Clark's Nutcracker, Gray Jay, Red Crossbill, juncos, plus numerous other mountain birds. Call leader to register as we can hold a maximum of 15 people at the cabin.

53rd Denver Christmas Bird Count SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2007

Count Leader/Compiler: Dick Schottler (303-278-8035, <birdscho@uswest.net>)
 Feeder Coordinators: Patty Echelmeyer (303-233-4947), Tina Jones (303-794-2647)
 Compilation meeting: 5:00pm at the South Platte Park classroom, 7301 South Platte River Parkway.

All DFO members are encouraged to participate in the annual Denver Christmas Bird Count (CBC) sponsored by the Denver Field Ornithologists and the National Audubon Society. To participate, call one of the Area Leaders listed below to assist in a particular area, or call the Count Leader if you would like to help in an area that still needs additional observers. As can be seen on the list, **there are still two (2) areas that do not have leaders and will not be covered unless volunteers are found to help out.** If you would be willing to lead in one of these areas, please call the Count Leader as soon as possible. After a day in the field, all participants are invited to attend the short compilation meeting being held this year in the South Platte Park classroom (adjacent to the Theo L. Carson Nature Center) to warm up, chat with other birders, and find out how the count fared.

Fees: National Audubon requires that each observer over the age of 18 pay a \$5.00 fee to participate in Christmas Bird Counts. Participants should pay the fee to their Area Leader. Checks should be made payable to *National Audubon Society*, not to DFO.

Several Area Leaders conduct pre-counts prior to Count Day. Since days and times of pre-counts will vary, contact an Area Leader if you wish to assist on a pre-count in a particular area. There is no fee for pre-counts. Area locations and names and phone numbers of Area Leaders are listed below. Participants should contact Area Leaders for meeting times and places on Count Day, Saturday, December 15.

Area Number and Location	Area Leader	Phone Number
1. Red Rocks Park	Bob Brown	303-791-6204
2. Lower Bear Creek	Mike Henwood	303-716-8551
2A. Bear Creek Lake Park	Kathy Hawkins	303-969-8909
3. Bow Mar/Marston	Karl Stecher	303-779-8887
4A. Lower South Platte - East	Ed Holub	303-979-2194
4B. Lower South Platte - West	Bob Shade	303-975-2476
5. Highline Ditch	Harold Oliver	303-936-6902
6. Plum Creek	Norm Erthal	303-424-6747
7A. Middle South Platte - West	Randy Lentz	303-680-3381
7B. Middle South Platte - East	Hugh Kingery	303-814-2723
8. Chatfield State Park	Joey Kellner	303-978-1748
9. Upper South Platte*	Jill Holden	303-972-6410
10. Lower Deer Creek	Lynn Willcockson	303-757-7000
11. Upper Deer Creek	<i>(leader needed)</i>	
12. Yegge Peak	Ann Bonnell	303-979-6211
13. Doublehead Mountain	Tim Davis	303-841-6163
14. North Turkey Creek	Dick Schottler	303-278-8035
15. Indian Hills	Sherman Wing	303-697-8840
16. Upper Bear Creek	Gene Rutherford	303-337-2598
17. Ken Caryl Ranch	Tom Bush	303-904-4576
18. Garrison Gate	<i>(leader needed)</i>	
19. Morrison/Willowbrook	Jackie King	303-287-1644
20. Willow Creek	Dennis Wojcicki	303-978-0517
21. Mount Lindo/Willow Springs	Karleen Schofield	303-936-8661

* to participate in this area, you must contact the area leader no later than Tuesday, December 11.

2008 Urban Denver Christmas Count January 1 2008

Platte River from North City limits to Mississippi, west to Buckley Field and Rocky Mtn. Arsenal. Start the New Year with a half day or whole day effort--a good way to start your New Year's List!

After the count, 5:00 p.m. **Pot Luck**, at Casey Davenport's, 415 South High (5 blocks west of University, about 2 blocks south of Alameda); please call Casey (303-744-0613) so we can count you in on the chili pot, Urling's brownies, Casey's hospitality, and your salad, dessert, veggie, or finger foods.

Count Leader, Hugh Kingery 303-814-2723

Area Location	Leader's	Telephone
South Platte (south) to Confluence Park	Doris Cruze	303-798-8072
South Platte (north)	Dick Schottler	303-278-8035
Rocky Mtn. Arsenal	Urling Kingery	303-814-2723
Commerce City/Montbello	Jackie King	303-287-1644
Sand Creek/Tollgate Creek,	Randy Lentz	303-680-3381
Bluff Lake, & Aurora,	Buzz Schaumberg	303-699-1721
Cherry Creek Res.	Bob Brown	303-791-6204
Kent School, S/Hampden SE Denver, N/Hampden TBA	Lynn Willcockson	303-757-7000
Cherry Creek, dam to University Blvd.	Paul Slingsby (tentative) <paslingsby@comcast.net>	303-422-3728
Fairmont, Lowry Field	Tuesday Birders	303-979-6211
City Park/Park Hill	Kevin Corwin	720-482-8454
Botanic Gardens, Denver Country Club, Wash. Park	Casey Davenport	303-744-0613

Book Signing by DFO member Hugh Kingery

December 2 Sunday

Hugh Kingery, author of *Birding Colorado (Falcon Guide)*, will be signing his book at Open House Sunday December 2 at 11am to 1pm at the Audubon Center.

From C470 drive south on Wadsworth 4.4 miles.

Left onto Waterton Road. Left at the large stone Audubon sign. Free and open to the public.

Treats, hot chocolate, and games for kids.

Proceeds from book sales will go to Audubon Society of Greater Denver.

Denver Field Ornithologists— Fifty Years Ago!

In 1957, the Colorado Bird Notes, the "Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club" were published in February, March, April, May, October/November, and December 1957/January 1958 [issues of 8 to 14 full 8.5"x11" pages, 52 total number pages for the year, cost to mail was 3 cents an issue, dues were \$2]. Regular headings in each issue were 1) Weldona Notes by Howard Rollin [a bird artist living in Weldona near Jackson Lake, not accessible until made a State Park in 1962, wrote sighting details in a text line for each species]; 2) Birds of the Month [or "of the Season", sightings text in the Denver area] by Don Thatcher; 3) Field trip reports [all trips summarized as text lines by species, not tabulated]; 4) Personals [deaths, births, weddings, etc]; 5) Announcements [President Donald Thatcher invited all members and friends to an open house 4 to 7 pm on New Years Day.]; and 6) Calendar for meetings at the Museum of Natural History and field trips [Some field trips were held jointly with the Colorado Mountain Club]. Special headings were 1) The Empidonax Flycatchers, Identification of Migrants by Don Thatcher; 2) The New York State Standards for abundance, frequency, and seasonal occurrence by R.S. Arbib, Jr., reprint from AOU [guided reporting format for bird trips for first time in the May issue]; 3) April Birding through Texas by Jean & Parnell White; 4) The State-wide Spring Count 1957 by Don Thatcher [24 counts, May 11: New Raymer to Julesburg, Weld County, Timnath, Platteville to Latham Reservoir, Boulder, Hygiene, Lyons, Estes Park, City Park and Buff Lake, Barr Lake and Mile-High Lakes, Cheesman Park to Aurora, Cherry Creek Dam, East Portal (Rollinsville), Boulder and Golden, Marston Lake, Cherry Hills, prairies southeast of Denver; May 12: Boulder County; May 18 weekend: Julesburg, Ovid, Jumbo Reservoir and Sterling, Logan, Phillips and Sedgwick Counties, Denver to Franktown to Burlington to Bonny Reservoir, dryland ranch near Weldona, Berthoud, Lyons, Estes Park, Drake, and Loveland, Longmont, Boulder to Lyons, South Platte River to Barr Lake, Red Rocks Park, Bergen Park, Idaho Springs, Echo Lake, Genesee Mountain Park, Bowles Lake, Plum Creek to Sedalia, Durango; May 19: Burlington and Bonny Reservoir to Denver, Boulder County, Cherry Creek Dam, note lack of southeast Colorado and West Slope birding areas except for Durango, tabulated species and number counted for a total of 256 species, about 80 observers, about 200 party hours]; 5) A.O.U. Check-list Revision by Don Thatcher [over 125 changes in AOU Area, many old names for Colorado birds changed, can you figure out the new/present names? : for example, Treganza Heron, Brewster Egret, Ferruginous Rough-leg, Natalie's Sapsucker, Willow Thrush, Lutescent Warbler, Pale Goldfinch, Arctic Towhee, and Desert Sparrow]; 6) Notes from Durango; 7) Christmas Count Plans [low- altitude count southwest of Denver December 21, high-altitude count Idaho Springs and Georgetown December 28]; 8) Winter Birds of the Denver Area, Part 1 by Don Thatcher; 9) Organization of Colorado Bird Club 1957-1958, list of officers, directors, and committee chairs [of interest the Vice President, chair of bird banding, and program chair was John Flavin who was active in DFO in 2004, and Corresponding Secretary Catherine Hurlbutt is presently an active member of DFO, note - Howard Rollin gave his annual gift to the Club, a water color of a pair of Bobolinks] and 10) 1957 Members [list of 145 members].

The bird occurrences and distributions in 1957 were generally similar to those of today, but some differ markedly, particularly for gulls. Ring-billed Gulls are only mentioned once and in only the 1957 Christmas Count as winter migrants and in few numbers. Franklin Gulls are mentioned in many months, some times in large numbers, for example 20,000 in the fall count. One or a few Bonaparte Gulls are mentioned in the fall. Single California, Herring, and Glaucous Gulls are reported only once. The low number of some gull species may be due to the lack of scopes and the limited variety of gull species due to unavailable good field guides for gulls. A single Varied Thrush and many large flocks of numerous Bohemian Waxwings were around in February and March. Most unusual and unexpected was a dead Ancient Murrelet picked up along a highway near Lafayette November 29. Wind analyses by John Flavin showed strong winds from the northwest states that may have brought the bird to Colorado. Other rare birds were Vermillion Flycatcher southwest of Denver, Palm Warbler at Cherry Creek, and a Pomarine Jaeger at Estes Park. Many final and early dates of species are given in the Bulletin.

Commentary: The Colorado Bird Club and its Colorado Bird Notes served the missions of what later would become the Denver Field Ornithologists and its Lark Bunting and the Colorado Field Ornithologists and its Colorado Birds.

Warren I. Finch

Historian

CoBirdClubNotes.doc – Microsoft Word

Additional Reports for September, 2007

species	date	nr seen	location	county	observers
Hawk, broad-winged	9/16	1-light morph	Crow Valley C/G	Weld	Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler
Merlin	9/13	1	Bear Creek Lake P.	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Falcon, Peregrine	9/17	1	Mc Clain Pt	Douglas	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Golden-Plover, American	9/16	1-basic	Jumbo Reservoir	Logan, Sedgwick	Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler
Golden-Plover, American	9/21	1-basic	Jackson Reservoir	Morgan	Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Nick Komar, Dick Schottler
Golden-Plover, American	9/14	1-basic	Prewitt Reservoir	Washington	Sandy Arnesen, Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Nick Komar, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler, Joyce Takamine, Mark Peterson, Glenn Walbek
Plover, mountain	9/28	1-!!! Lingerling late	Jackson Reservoir	Morgan	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Mark Peterson, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Godwit, marbled	9/28	1	Jackson Reservoir	Weld	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Mark Peterson, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Knot, red	9/21	1-juv.	Jackson Reservoir	Morgan	Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Nick Komar, Dick Schottler
Dowitcher, short-billed	9/16-9/21	1-juv.	Prewitt Reservoir	Washington	Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Nick Komar, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler
Dowitcher, short-billed	9/15	1-juv	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson	Kellner, Joey
Phalarope, red	9/12-9/14	1	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Gull, Lesser blk-backed	9/11-9/24	1	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Gull, Sabine's	9/11-9/24	up to 6	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Gull, Sabine's	9/14	1-juv.	Prewitt Reservoir	Washington	Sandy Arnesen, Joey Kellner, Joe Roller, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Gull, Sabine's	9/16	1-photos	Weld CR 51 & 62.5	Weld	Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler
Gull, Sabine's	9/23	1-adult	Jackson Reservoir	Morgan	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Loch Kilpatrick, Steve Larson, Charlie Lawrence, Joe Roller, Glenn Walbek
Gull, Sabine's	9/29	4-juv.	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson, Douglas	Paul Differding, Allison Hilf, Jill Holden, Joey Roller, Bob Shade, Glenn Walbek
Gull, Sabine's	9/30	4-juv.	Jumbo Reservoir	Logan, Sedgwick	Lisa Edwards, Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Tina Jones, Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Glenn Walbek
Tern, Black	9/14	1	Bear Creek Lake P.	Jefferson	Mike Henwood, Rob Raker
Dove, Eur. Collared	9/15	52!	Flagler Res.	Kit Carson	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Poorwill, common	9/14	2	Private Ranch	Washington	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Mark Peterson, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Poorwill, common	9/16	1	Crow Valley C/G	Weld	Lisa Edwards, Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Tina Jones, Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Glenn Walbek
Poorwill, common	9/14	1-photos	Brush SWA	Morgan	Lisa Edwards, Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Tina Jones, Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Joe Roller, Glenn Walbek
Woodpecker, Lewis's	9/3	1-flyover	Chatfield Reservoir	Douglas	Paul Differding, Allison Hilf, Jill Holden, Joey Roller, Bob Shade, Glenn Walbek
Flycatcher, grey	8/31	1	Bear Creek Lake P.	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Flycatcher, scissor-tailed	8/6	1	Bear Creek Lake P.	Jefferson	Richard Rodell (park ranger)
Nuthatch, red-breasted	9/15	1	Flagler Res.	Kit Carson	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Townsend's Solitaire	9/15	1	Flagler Res.	Kit Carson	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Northern Mockingbird	8/30	1	Marston Lake	Jefferson	Patty Echelmeyer, Mike Henwood
Thrasher, brown	9/15	1	Flagler Res.	Kit Carson	Hugh & Urling Kingery
Kinglet, golden-crowned	9/7	1	Pawnee Grasslands	Weld	Joey Kellner, Joyce Takamine
Kinglet, golden-crowned	9/30	4	Prewitt Reservoir	Washington	Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner, Mark Peterson, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Veery	9/14	1	Last Chance Rest Area	Washington	Sandy Arnesen, Joey Kellner, Joe Roller, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, Nashville	9/16	1-photos	Crow Valley C/G	Weld	Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Randy Lentz, Larry Modesitt, Joe Roller, Dick Schottler
Warbler, chestnut-sided	9/14	1-first fall female	Private Ranch	Washington	Sandy Arnesen, Joey Kellner, Joe Roller, Joyce Takamine, Glenn Walbek
Warbler, Magnolia	9/3	1-(1st fall f; photos)	Chatfield Reservoir	Douglas	Kellner, Joey
Warbler, Magnolia	9/7	1-1st fall male	Crow Valley Campg	Weld	Joey Kellner, Joyce Takamine
Lark Bunting	8/30	5 to 10	Marston Lake P.	Jefferson	Mike Henwood
Grackle, Great-tailed	9/15	80	Flagler Res.	Kit Carson	Hugh & Urling Kingery

Additional Reports for October, 2007

Loon, Red-throated	10/28	1	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Loon, Pacific	10/19-10/28	1	Chery Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Bob Brown
Green Heron	10/12	1	Middle Park	Grand	Michelle Cowardin
Snow Goose	10/27	40	Franktown	Douglas	H&U
Scoter, surf	10/28	6-juv.	Eleven Mile Res.	Park	George Armbrust, Joey Kellner, Steve Larson, Charlie Lawrence, Dick Schottler, Andrew
Sandhill Crane	10/11	3500-5000	Franktown	Douglas	H&U
Sandhill Crane	10/11	1000s	Castle Rock	Douglas	Clarke Poos
Sandhill Crane	10/12	200-400	5 mi W of Castle Rock	Douglas	Brenda Beatty
Sandhill Crane	10/12	1000+	Elizabeth	Elbert	Fran Sheppardson
Sandhill Crane	10/12	2 small flocks	Elbert	Elbert	Jackie Dunn
Sandhill Crane	10/12	1000s	Franktown	Douglas	Bernie Smith
Sandhill Crane	10/22	100	Stonewall	Las Animas	Tom Speicher
Sandhill Crane	10/27	40	Castlewood Canyon SP	Douglas	H&U
Plover, black-bellied	10/27	1-heard	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson, Douglas	Jill Holden, Joey Kellner, Andrew Spencer
Gull, mew	10/7	1-3rd year bird	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Gull, Thayer's	10/19	1-1st basic	Aurora Reservoir	Arapahoe	Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner Glenn Walbek
Gull, Thayer's	10/27	1-adult	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson, Douglas	Jill Holden, Joey Kellner, Andrew Spencer
Gull, lesser black-backed	10/7	1-adult	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
Gull, lesser black-backed	10/19	3-adults	Cherry Creek S.P.	Arapahoe	Norm Erthal, Allison Hilf, Joey Kellner Glenn Walbek
Gull, lesser black-backed	10/27	1-second cycle	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson, Douglas	Jill Holden, Joey Kellner, Andrew Spencer
Gull, lesser black-backed	10/28	1-adult	Chatfield Reservoir	Douglas	George Armbrust, Joey Kellner, Charlie Lawrence, Andrew Spencer
Gull, Sabine's	10/7	3-juv.	Chatfield Reservoir	Douglas	Joey Kellner, Glenn Walbek
N. Saw-whet Owl	10/11-10/30	1	Franktown	Douglas	H&U
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	10/11-10/30	1	Franktown	Douglas	Kathy Dressel
Pinyon Jay	10/2-3 & 17	Unknown - heard only	Franktown	Douglas	H&U
Mountain Chickadee	10/29	1	Littleton	Arapahoe	HK
Am. Tree Sparrow	10/28	1	Franktown	Douglas	H&U
Sparrow, lark	10/27	1-!!! Late!	Chatfield Reservoir	Jefferson, Douglas	Jill Holden, Joey Kellner, Andrew Spencer
Junco, white-winged	10/28	2	Jefferson Co. Open Space	Jefferson, Douglas	Mike Henwood

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net,

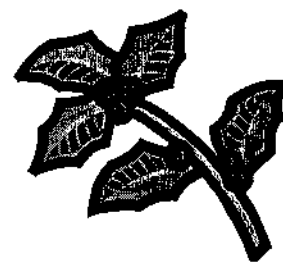
Welcome New Members!

Bob Albrecht, 7400 W. Grant Ranch Blvd #38, Littleton, CO 80123, 303.933.3393
 Becky Campbell, 5166 S. Ironton Way, Englewood, CO 80111, 303.771.0897
 Barbara and Don Hollums, 6477 Wauconda Dr., Larkspur, CO 80118, 303.681.3144
 Meredith McBurney, 1459 Clayton, Denver, CO 80206, 303.329.8091
 Thomas Parchman, 2225 Lewis St, Lakewood, CO 80215, 303.274.7951
 Rick and Connie Steincamp, 13381 W. 54th Ave., Arvada, CO 80002, 303.420.5039

Contributions to Rare Bird Alert/Educational Endowment Fund:

Bob Albrecht (RBA), Jill Boice (EEF), Becky Campbell (RBA, EEF), Ron Carter (RBA), Kevin Corwin (RBA, EEF), Doris Cruze (RBA, EEF), Jo-Ann Garavaglia and Ann Sprague (RBA), Peggy Gonder (RBA), Mike Henwood (RBA, EEF), Monna Krebs (RBA, EEF), Alice Kruse (RBA, EEF), Bobbie and George Lohr (RBA), Jon and Elissa McAlear (RBA, EEF), Christie Owens (EEF), Thomas Parchman (RBA), Sally Plummer (RBA), Danny and Denise Smith (RBA), Anne Southcott (RBA), Mary Ann Tavery (RBA, EEF), William and Nancy Urquhart, (RBA), Joan and Jack Whiting (RBA, EEF).

Thank you and Happy Birding!



October 2007 Field Trip Summaries

October 6, Saturday *Lair O'the Bear (LAI)*

Leader(s): Nina Routh. **Observers:** Sally Plummer, Toni Rautus, Marilyn Fowler, Deb Ostergard, Betsy Rumely Peter Gillette, Mike Foster, Herb and Sarah Dreco, S Herman Wing, Mike Serruto, Paul Slingsby, Jim Duggan, Christy Honnen. **Time:** 0800-1145. **Distance:** 2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian/coniferous. **Weather:** Perfect, 60-70°F. **Totals:** 25 species, 138 individuals.

October 7, Sunday *Chatfield State Park (CHA)*

Leader(s): Ed Holub. **Observers:** Fred Hagar, Pauline Ide, Danny Rohr, Betsy Shaw, Rick and Connie Steinkamp. **Time:** 0730-1500. **Distance:** 23.5 miles by car, 3.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, river riparian, elevation 5600'. **Weather:** Mostly clear to partly cloudy, 37-55°F, north wind, 0-5 mph. **Totals:** 36 species, 491 individuals.

October 13, Saturday *Belmar Park (BEL)*

Leader(s): Karleen Schofield. **Observers:** Jerry Davidson, Nancy Dunkle, Patty Echelmeyer, Bill Eden, Marlene and Ray Feldt, Jim Fischer, Jean Frazier, Ed and Thomas Holub, Melinda McAusted, Tom Parchman, Rosemary Sleevi, Connie and Rick Steinkamp. **Time:** 0830-1200. **Distance:** 3/4 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, grassland, wetlands, conifer stands, man-made lake, elevation 5500'. **Weather:** Overcast, 50°F. **Totals:** 34 species, 284 individuals.

October 14, Sunday *"The Big Sit" (THE)*

Leader(s): Joey Kellner. **Observers:** Mary Burger, Doris Cruze, Todd Deininger, Ed Holub, Tina Jones, Randy Lentz, Christian Nunes, Dick Pratt, Bill Schmoker, Jim Schmoker, Dick Schottler, Andrew Spencer, Steve Stachowiak. **Time:** 0515-1830. **Habitat:** Original heronry overlook at Chatfield State Park. **Weather:** Overcast and light drizzle most of the day, 39-42°F, northwest wind, 3-15mph. **Totals:** 53 species, 960 individuals.

October 20, Saturday *Walden Ponds - Boulder Area (WAL)* Report not available at time of printing.

October 21, Sunday *Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)*

Leader(s): Bob Righter. **Observers:** Nina Routh, Betsy Shaw, Karen von Saltza. **Time:** 0800-1100. **Distance:** 2 miles by car, .2 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Aquatic, shrub. **Weather:** Snowing, 30°F, north wind, 15-20mph. **Totals:** 22 species, 386 individuals.

October 27, Saturday *Prospect Park (PRO)*

Leader(s): Toni Rautus. **Observers:** Sue Barnhart, Jim Duggan, Marilyn Fowler, Tom Parchman, Sally Plummer, Nina Rough, Paul Slingsby, Elizabeth Smith. **Time:** 0800-1130. **Distance:** 2.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponds, riparian, and woods, elevation 5000'. **Weather:** Cloudy, 43°F, north wind, 4-7mph. **Totals:** 32 species, 617 individuals.

October 28, Sunday *Barr Lake State Park (BAR)* Report not available at time of printing.

Tuesday Birders

October 2 *Kenosha Pass and Campground/Picnic Ground (KEN)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 26 (two groups). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 6 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Ponds, bristlecone pine, spruce, douglas fir, aspen woodlands, grassy meadows, elevation 10000-10400'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy to sunny, 36-47°F, variable wind, gusts to 15-20mph. **Totals:** 15 species, 75 individuals.

October 9 *Cherry Creek State Park (CHE)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell. **Observers:** 35. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 14 miles by car, 1 mile on foot. **Habitat:** Lake, riparian/cottonwood, wetlands, grasslands, elevation 5300-5400'. **Weather:** Mostly sunny, 51-68°F, calm. **Totals:** 36 species, 807 individuals.

October 2007 Field Trip Summaries, continued

October 16*Lair o' the Bear (LAI)*

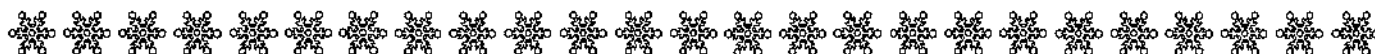
Leader(s): Ann Bonnell, Else Van Erp, and Alice Kruse. **Observers:** 38 (three groups). **Time:** 0900-1300. **Distance:** 4 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, transitional zone with juniper & ponderosa pine, shrubland & city park, elevation 5700-6600'. **Weather:** Partly cloudy, 44-64°F, southeast wind, 0-7 mph. **Totals:** 17 species, 106 individuals.

October 23*Roxborough State Park (ROX)*

Leader(s): Ann Bonnell and Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 33 (two groups). **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 6.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Riparian, foothills oak, elevation 6230'. **Weather:** Clear, 47-70° F, northwest wind, 20mph. **Totals:** 18 species, 250 individuals.

October 30*Chatfield State Park (CHA)*

Leader(s): Else Van Erp. **Observers:** 29. **Time:** 0900-1200. **Distance:** 10 miles by car, 1.5 miles on foot. **Habitat:** Large reservoir, riparian, cottonwood, grassy areas, shoreline, elevation 5430'. **Weather:** Clear, breezy, 56-75°F,



DFO Board October meeting news

1. It was decided to no longer sell books at the monthly meetings and remaining inventory will be sold out at discounted prices at the Oct. and Nov. meetings.
2. DFO will send \$75 each quarter to Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory to help pay for the Rare Bird Alert phone bill.
3. We will print new brochures about DFO.
4. Endowment Fund applications are being accepted now for the April 2008 awards.

WE STILL NEED A NEW MEMBERSHIP OFFICER.

Please consider volunteering a few hours a month.



October 2007 Field Trip Summary Table

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	6	7	13	14	20	21	27	28	2	9	16	23	30	
	LAI	CHA	BEL	THE	WAL	CHE	PRO	BAR	KEN	CHE	LAI	ROX	CHA	
Pacific Loon													1	1
Common Loon													1	1
Pied-billed Grebe		2	2			1	2			7				14
Horned Grebe						10				1			3	14
Eared Grebe						15				3				18
Western Grebe		35		10						8			67	120
Clark's Grebe													1	1
American White Pelican		45		20		50				156			67	338
Double-crested Cormorant		3	2	75		30	7			55			2	174
Great Blue Heron		1	1	1		3				8				14
Great Egret										1				1
Snowy Egret										3				3
Cackling Goose				1										1
Canada Goose		15	22	90		2	125			10			231	495
Gadwall		3	20	130			23						14	190
Eurasian Wigeon														0
American Wigeon		60		8			6			19				93
American Black Duck														0
Mallard	5	15	36	7		6	18		2	38	5		7	139
Blue-winged Teal				1									3	4
Northern Shoveler		12	40	5		1	40						1	99
Northern Pintail													2	2
Green-winged Teal				12		10				5			8	35
Redhead				1			7							8
Ring-necked Duck							8							8
Lesser Scaup														0
Bufflehead							15							15
Hooded Merganser							3							3
Common Merganser		45		23		1							4	73
Ruddy Duck			3							8				11
Osprey		2		2										4
Northern Harrier				1						2				3
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1										1		2
Cooper's Hawk			1				1					2		4
Red-tailed Hawk				2			1		1	1	2	4	3	14
Rough-legged Hawk														0
Golden Eagle				2								2		4
American Kestrel			2	2						3				7
Merlin				1										1
Peregrine Falcon				1										1
Prairie Falcon				1										1
falcon sp.			1											1
Ring-necked Pheasant						3								3
American Coot				120		3	38		2	130				293
Sandhill Crane				80										80
Black-bellied Plover				23										23
Killdeer				7		6				15				28
Shorebird sp				40										40
Long-billed Dowitcher														0
Red-necked Phalarope														0
Franklin's Gull										2				2
Ring-billed Gull		55	26	60		50	48			296			125	660
California Gull			2	7		100	1							110

October 2007 Field Trip Summary Table, continued

SPECIES	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	6	7	13	14	20	21	27	28	2	9	10	23	30	
DATE	LAI	CHA	DEL	THE	WAL	CHE	PRO	ENE	REN	CHE	LAI	ROK	CHA	
LOCATION														
Herring Gull				3									4	7
Lesser Black-backed Gull										1				1
Sabine's Gull				1										1
Ivory Gull														0
Forster's Tern										2				2
Rock Pigeon			40	18						1			1	60
Mourning Dove		2	1				6			2				11
Great Horned Owl				1										1
Rufous Hummingbird														0
Belted Kingfisher		3	1				4			4			1	13
Downy Woodpecker	2	3		1							1	5	4	16
Hairy Woodpecker	1													1
Three-toed Woodpecker									1					1
Northern Flicker	3	8	8	9		4	18			3	2	6	6	67
"Red-shafted" race	(3)	(8)	(8)	(9)										(28)
Buff-breasted Flycatcher														0
Gray Jay									2					2
Steller's Jay	5								4		6	19		34
Blue Jay		1	2				6					5		14
Western Scrub-Jay												18		18
Clark's Nutcracker									2					2
Black-billed Magpie	4	20	6	7		6	4		1	5	10	2	9	74
American Crow	6	16	9	8			3		2	2	17	150	13	226
Common Raven									3	1				4
Tree Swallow				1										1
Barn Swallow				2						2				4
Black-capped Chickadee	8	85		9			14		4	3	8	12	5	148
Mountain Chickadee	4		3						7		11	3	1	29
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1		1											2
White-breasted Nuthatch	3	3		1								1	2	10
Pygmy Nuthatch	30													30
Brown Creeper	5	3									3			11
American Dipper											6			6
Golden-crowned Kinglet														0
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	6	6					1				1			14
Mountain Bluebird									1					1
Townsend's Solitaire	8		1	3							7	3	1	23
Swainson's Thrush												1		1
American Robin	5	8	9	45		8	44		12	1	13		2	147
European Starling		5		40		75	150						68	338
American Pipit													12	12
Cedar Waxwing											1			1
Orange-crowned Warbler		1												1
Yellow-rumped Warbler		1	2	11										14
"Audubon's" race		1	2	(11)										(14)
Wilson's Warbler		1												1
Spotted Towhee	2	1		1			1					7		12
American Tree Sparrow													17	17

October 2007 Field Trip Summary Table, continued

SPECIES DATE LOCATION	DFO FIELD TRIPS								TUESDAY BIRDERS					TOTAL
	6	7	13	14	20	21	27	28	2	9	16	23	30	
	LAI	CMA	BEL	THE	WAL	GIE	PRD	ONE	KEN	GIE	LAI	ROK	CMA	
Chipping Sparrow	4			11										15
Fox Sparrow														0
Song Sparrow	1		1	2			4				2		1	11
Lincoln's Sparrow			1											1
White-crowned Sparrow	2	8	2	35										47
"Gambel's" race			2											(2)
Dark-eyed Junco	3		1				1		31		11	9	2	58
"Slate-colored" race												(1)		(1)
"Oregon" race			1				1					(2)	2	(5)
"Pink-sided" race												(1)		(1)
"Gray-headed" race	3								31					(34)
Red-winged Blackbird			8	1			1			4				14
Western Meadowlark		6				1							1	8
Common Grackle			1											1
Cassin's Finch	5													5
House Finch	10	5	25	13		1	16			3			8	81
Pine Siskin	7			1										8
Lesser Goldfinch	8	3		3										14
American Goldfinch		8	3										3	14
House Sparrow			1				1			2				4
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	138	491	284	960	0	388	617	0	75	807	106	250	701	4815
TOTAL SPECIES	25	36	34	53	0	22	32	0	15	36	17	18	37	101
OBSERVATION LEGEND:	a=adult, H=Hudson, J=Junco, y=young, n=nesting, m=mate, f=female, h=heard only, c=calling, s=singing, boldface=circumstantial, +=double addition to, x=individual data incomplete/not enumerated													

In February, volunteers throughout the U.S. and Canada are invited to

"Count for Fun, Count for the Future!"

New York, NY & Ithaca, NY, 23 October 2007—Millions of novice and accomplished bird watchers can make their fascination with nature add up for science and for the future during the 11th annual Great Backyard Bird Count, led by Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. During "Presidents' Day" weekend, February 15–18, 2008, anyone can count birds from wherever they are and enter their tallies online at www.birdcount.org. These reports create an exciting real-time picture of where the birds are across the continent and contribute valuable information for science and conservation.

People of all ages and experience levels are invited to take part wherever they are—at home, in schoolyards, at local parks or wildlife refuges, even counting birds on a balcony. Observers count the highest number of each species they see during at least 15 minutes on one or more of the count days. Then they enter their tallies on the Great Backyard For more information on how to participate, including identification tips, photos, bird sounds, maps, and information on over 500 bird species, visit www.birdcount.org.

Birding in Australia: January 28 DFO Meeting

Norm Erthal will present his birding experiences and photographs from birding in Australia at the DFO meeting on Monday, January 28, 2008 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Expect interesting dialogue, lots of great bird pictures and a view of many of the birding sites around this continent.

Norm led a group of bird watchers over a six-week period to a number of birding locations throughout Australia in October and November 2005. Australia (including Tasmania) has over 300 endemics (second most of any area in the world). The group found 465 species, including 241 endemics, all of the Tasmanian endemics, 4 species of Albatross, 7 Bowerbirds, 37 species of Parrots, and 32 Australo-Papuan Warblers. The group was able to observe 45 families not present in North America including Megapodes, Mudnest Builders, Bell-Magpies, and Flowerpeckers. They also saw 58 of 68 Honeyeaters species, the biological replacement of hummingbirds in Australia. The group covered most of the continent (with the exception of the less birding northwestern part of the country).

- At Kakadu National Park, they found Black Bittern, Black-banded Fruit-Dove, Hooded Parrot, and Golden Bowerbird. In Tasmania, they went to Mount Wellington, Bruny Island, and Lunawanna Penguin Reserve. They found Musk Duck, Tasmanian Native Hen, Masked Lapwing, and Orange-bellied Parrot.

- In Western Australia, they birded from Perth to Albany, took in a pelagic trip, enjoyed Two Peoples Bay, Porongurup National Park, Dryandra Forest Reserve, found Black-browed Albatross, Yellow-nosed Albatross, White-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Red-winged Fairywren, and heard the ear-splitting call of Western Whipbird.

- They covered Darwin in North Territory or Top End, enjoyed the sites of Mary River, Katherine River, and the Darwin Sewage Ponds (sewage and birding a true must anywhere), and found species like Rufous Owl, Rainbow Pitta, Little Curlew, and Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove.



- In Northern Queensland, the look for birds at Cathedral Fig Tree, Curtain Fig Tree, Daintree River, Mount Mallow, Cairns Esplanade (one of the best shorebird locations in Australia) and enjoyed seeing Great Bowerbird at the bower, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Southern Cassowary (not just a zoo bird), Papuan Frogmouth, and Pacific Baza.

- From Alice Springs in the Northern Territory, they checked out Kunnoth Bore for birds coming in to drink at dusk, Ormiston Gorge, and Simpson's Gap and saw Port Lincoln Parrot, Western Bowerbird, Painted Firetail, and Lovely fairywren.

- From Uluru at sunset, they saw Wedge-tailed eagle, Banded Whiteface, and Gray Honeyeater.

- From the Melbourne area in Victoria, they birded Little Desert National Park, Wyperfeld National Park, and Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and found Maned Duck, Mallefowl (in a nest that was over 100 years old), Australian Owllet-Nightjar, and White-Fronted Chat.

- In Southern Queensland, they birded Brisbane and Lamington National Park and picked up Logrunner, Silver Gull, White-headed Pigeon, and a Regent Bowerbird at the bower. From Sydney and Wollongong in New South Wales, the group went to Royal National Park, Barren Ground National Park, and took in another pelagic trip from Wollongong. They found Wandering Albatross, Eastern Spinebill, Beautiful Firetail, Great-winged Petrel, and Gray Goshawk.

Norm Erthal has served the Colorado Birding community in several capacities by participating in the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas, serving as President and Board member of the Denver Field Ornithologists, and by compiling and publishing the Colorado Rare Bird Alert for seven years. Norm has birded extensively throughout the United States including a trip to Attu, Nome, and Gambell. He has led trips to Costa Rica, Oaxaca Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, Spain and the Canary Islands, Jamaica, the United Arab Emirates, and Alaska. Norm has recently retired from the Colorado Division of Wildlife after 30 years of service, but he looks forward to leading several bird watching trips around the world each year.

The Denver Field Ornithologists' Organization

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The *Lark Bunting* has been published monthly since October 1965 for members of the Denver Field Ornithologists, Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard., Denver, CO 80205. The Denver Field Ornithologists was organized as the Colorado Bird Club in 1935, and membership is open to anyone interested in the birds of the Denver area in particular, and the birds of Colorado in general. The DFO presents monthly evening programs (except in the summer and month of December) and conducts about 100 field trips annually.

Regular individual or family membership is \$25.00 per year (\$20 per year if you choose to have the newsletter sent by email). Student (age 21 or younger) membership is \$5.00 per year. Applications for membership should be sent to the Membership Chair Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. A membership application form is on the next page of this newsletter. The *Lark Bunting* is now mailed first class.

Notices or announcements of classes, lectures, special field trips, etc., relating to birds that are intended for inclusion in the *Lark Bunting* should be sent to the Editor no later than the 5th of the month for the following month's issue. The Editor reserves the right to accept or refuse any submittals, and to edit any announcement. The *Lark Bunting* does not accept advertising.

Scheduling and compiling the information for monthly publication is a complex and time-consuming effort, therefore the responsibilities are shared by many dedicated volunteers. First day of the month is the deadline for all submittals. Email is preferred whenever possible.

Field Trip/Count Reports: Debra Bogar, 9475 W. Hinsdale Pl., Littleton, CO 80128, 303.932-7607, dafb@earthlink.net

Additional Reports: Polleke Siraa, psiraa@earthlink.net, 12216 E. Amherst Cr., Aurora, CO 80014, 303.755.2522.

Upcoming Field Trips

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct: Scheduled by Patty Echelmeyer, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net.

Feb, May, Aug, Nov includes Spring count schedule, scheduled by Jackie King, compiled by Cris Cook, 8511 W Star Circle, Littleton, CO 80128, cris@pcisys.net

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec includes fall and Christmas count schedules, scheduled by Meredith Anderson, meander303@mac.com, compiled by Kim Sawyer, 4617 S. Flanders Way, Centennial CO 80115, kimmer815@aol.com

Our web site www.dfobirders.org lists current field trip schedules that you can download. Changes to trip schedules will be posted on the site, and noted on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, 303.659.8750. We encourage members to routinely check the Bird Alert number for last minute trip changes or cancellations.

Membership Information

Purpose: The prime objective of the club is to promote interest in the study and preservation of birds and their habitats. Members are encouraged to learn about birds in the field, noting species and numbers, while familiarizing themselves with their songs and calls, as well as habits and habitats.

Regular Meetings: Monthly DFO Meetings are at the Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson Auditorium. The meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month except May, June, July and December. Dates and topics of the meetings are on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert 303.659.8750, www.dfobirders.org and in this newsletter. Park on the north side of museum and walk around to the west door between 7 and 7:30 pm. If late, enter through security/volunteer door. Meetings start at 7:30 pm, and are open to the public without charge.

Field Trips: These are scheduled for almost every Saturday and Sunday, visiting a variety of habitats near Denver. Occasionally, special trips are arranged to good birding areas in other areas in Colorado and surrounding states. Usually it is necessary to bring a lunch, and to wear hiking shoes or boots. Carpooling is encouraged (to get the most from bird watching, as well as conserving time and energy). Carpooling charge (January 07) is .30 cents per mile, divided by the number of birders in the car, including the driver. The *Lark Bunting*, the DFO monthly newsletter, is issued to all members. It lists upcoming field trips, along with detailed reports of previous trips and check lists, along with interesting sightings reported by our members.

Denver Field Ornithologists

2008 Membership Application

Please indicate whether this is a ☐ **New Membership** or a ☐ **Renewal**

All memberships expire December 31, but are valid for the next year if paid after October 1st. If you would prefer to have the Lark Bunting emailed to you, please include your email address.

One Year Family Membership (Electronic Lark Bunting) \$20.00

One Year Family Membership (First Class Mail Lark Bunting) \$25.00

Student/Youth Membership (age 21 or younger) \$5

Contribution to the Colorado Rare Bird Alert \$____

With the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, DFO sponsors this list of sightings of rare or unusual birds, located on the [Colorado Field Ornithologists Web Site](http://ColoradoFieldOrnithologists.org)

Contribution to the DFO Educational Endowment Fund \$____

DFO awards grants to individuals or organizations whose mission fosters public education concerning various aspects of the study of birds such as their identification, voice, habits, habitats as well as preservation.

Name:

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Electronic Lark Bunting

E-Mail Address

**Please make checks payable to Denver Field Ornithologists and send to
Carolyn Cooley, 941 W. Kettle Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120**